

Town's patients go private after NHS exodus by dentists

BY JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

THE shortage of NHS dentists in the South-East is highlighted in one area of London where only 4 per cent of paying adults have access to NHS treatment. The other 96 per cent go private, or not at all, according to the Bromley family health services authority.

The British Dental Association says the shortage of NHS dentists in the South-East and other parts of the country has been caused by dentists going private, complaining that they can no longer make a living from health service fees.

Yet other dentists are earning well over £100,000 a year from the NHS, although the average is around £35,000, an anomaly neither the health department nor the dental association can explain.

The department says the high earning dentists prove that with good organisation and hard work, NHS fees are more than sufficient. But a survey it commissioned last year showed that dentists are cutting back on their NHS work. One in four are now not accepting all NHS patients. Many turn away patients who pay charges — the only ones likely to agree to pay privately — while continuing to accept children and adults exempt from charges.

The situation is worst in the South-East. In southwest Thames, 48 per cent of dentists are not accepting all NHS patients and in the other Thames regions more than

a third select who they treat. Seventy-three per cent of dentists in Kingston and Richmond are turning away health service patients. Some areas have appointed salaried dentists to fill the gap.

Two factors appear to have increased the drift to the private sector. The sharp rise in NHS dental charges has reduced the differential between the cost of public and private treatment. Patients now pay 75 per cent of the cost of their NHS treatment (up to a maximum of £200, rising to £225 from April 1). Many dentists who have gone private still cost their time at NHS rates and charge patients only 25 per cent more than they were paying under the NHS. But they avoid all the paperwork associated with claiming fees from the health service.

Secondly, under the new dental contract introduced in October 1990, dentists are required to register patients and to accept continuing 24-hour responsibility. They say this increases their paperwork and workload with no increase in income.

"Patients seem happy to pay," said Richard Buckley, whose practice in Bromley has recently gone private. "We have lost very few patients. We have got four surgeries and they are all very busy. There were so many clauses in the new contract that we didn't like. Things were getting out of our control."

The likeliest explanation is that dentists are responding to market pressures. North of a line from the Severn to the Wash there is little private practice and nine out of ten dentists accept all NHS patients.

Both government and opposition remain concerned. William Waldegrave, the health secretary, initiated discussions with the dental association on rewarding dentists who make the greatest commitment to the NHS. Robin Cook for Labour has promised "more money for dentistry".

Taking over the editorship in 1989, Thomas had attempted to jettison the leisurely essays on the doddiness of foreigners and

waywardness of household contraptions that had become the hallmark of *Punch*, substituting brash, rather obvious jokes about the awfulness of TV quiz show hosts and the vulgarity of the MP Edwina Currie. It had become a magazine for yuppies, inopportunistically relinquished when Yuppies had begun to disappear.

Was *Punch* ever funny? Successive editors failed to laugh at the efforts of their predecessors. In January 1954, the then editor, Malcolm Muggeridge, recorded in his diary that he had been looking through the volumes for 1938 and 1939, and that he found them "decidedly depressing — politically, feebly Baldwinian".

Even when the written humour was at its most verbose and leadenly whimsical ("May I permit myself the

luxury of a general reflection of saucepans?" might be a typical first sentence for a *Punch* article at almost any time in its history), the cartoons held strong. Pont, Lancaster, Bateman, Marc, Trog and Heath all contributed. Looking through back numbers, it is notable that the cartoons remain alert and funny long after the prose has died a death.

In the 1940s, *Punch* had a circulation of 144,000. Its dramatic deterioration over the past 30 years can be attributed to the success of the more biting satire of *Private Eye*, and the expansion of rival markets for humorous writers in newspapers and in television.

The magazine's demise holds one consolation for the present editor, however. At least when it is dead and buried — the last issue is scheduled for April 8 — he will at last be able to agree with everyone else that *Punch* isn't as funny as it used to be.

Satire is knocked out by low sales

BY MELINDA WITTSTOCK
MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

PUNCH, the 150-year-old satirical weekly, will cease publication on the eve of the general election unless a buyer can be found to revive it.

The announcement by United Newspapers followed more speculation that the magazine, which lost £1.2 million last year, was about to close. The publishers blamed "a low sale and disappointing advertising revenue".

Sales of *Punch*, whose contributors have included P.G. Wodehouse and Malcolm Muggeridge, have slumped from a peak of 175,000 in the 1940s to just 33,000 last year. A £700,000 campaign promoting the magazine during its 150th anniversary last year failed to boost sales.

"We needed sales to go up by thousands, but they only went up by hundreds," David Thomas, the editor, said.

Graham Wilson, United's managing director, said: "People just don't have as much need for a humourous topical magazine as they once did. To break even, sales would have had to have reached 75,000 and advertising revenue would have had to have doubled."

Mr Wilson said that the company was working to find a buyer before its last issue on April 8 and the magazine's journalists are believed to be considering a management buyout.

Media L&T pages 6, 7

Sentences on IRA man total 500 years

BY EDWARD GORMAN
IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

ONE of the IRA's most active members was jailed for 22 years at Belfast crown court yesterday and given a total of 500 years in concurrent sentences.

Thomas Martin O'Dwyer, from the Falls Road area of West Belfast, was convicted on 33 counts including four attempts to murder members of the security forces and a string of bomb attacks.

The court had earlier been told that O'Dwyer had helped launch three mortar bomb attacks against police stations. He had planted a culvert bomb detonated in the path of an army vehicle, had tried to blow up the main runway at Belfast international airport and had been involved in a plan to destroy Shorts aerospace complex in East Belfast in November 1989.

O'Dwyer was jailed with Albert Gerard Weir, aged 22, of Belfast, who received 15 years after admitting an act to cause an explosion. James Overend, aged 41, of Belfast, was jailed for two years for allowing the IRA to use his home. David Adams, aged 63, and his wife, Julia, aged 56, of Belfast, were given 12 months suspended sentences for withholding information about the IRA.

House rescued by £3.5m grant

The future of Burton Constable, a country house near Sprawley, north Humberstone, has been secured by a £3.5 million endowment from the National Heritage Memorial Fund. John Chichester Constable, the present owner, has agreed that the house and contents should pass to a new charity, the Burton Constable Foundation. He will be one of seven trustees and will continue to live in the south wing.

The house was offered to and rejected by the National Trust in 1967, when repairs were estimated at about £300,000.

Asylum request

Twelve of the Indian illegal immigrants arrested after climbing out of a lorry at a service station on the M4 have asked for political asylum, the Home Office said. Others say they will return, probably to Germany, and the other being examined by a psychiatrist. The men are believed to have travelled to The Netherlands via Germany.

Route cleared

Virgin Atlantic yesterday received the go-ahead to compete with British Airways on the Heathrow and Johannesburg service from October. Richard Branson, Virgin's chairman, said that prices on the five-a-week flights would be the most competitive yet to South Africa. BA and South African Airways charge £4,200 for a first class return, £2,300 for club class and £590 for an Apex fare.

Police apology

Strathclyde police committee accepted an apology from Leslie Sharp, chief constable of the region, for allegedly racist remarks he made during a cricket club dinner earlier this month. James Jennings, the committee chairman, said: "The chief constable has unreservedly apologised for this and has given us an assurance that he supports our race relations policy."

CORRECTION

Yesterday's *Times* incorrectly reported that general practitioners would be subject to the 9 per cent national insurance levy proposed in Labour's shadow budget. As GPs are usually self-employed, they would be exempt from Labour's extension of national insurance.



Glimpse into the future: a 1959 issue of *Punch* priced nine old pence

Time is running out for Mr Punch

NO MORE the broken lawn mower, farewell, the all-too-human pet: RIP *Punch* magazine. With losses estimated at more than £1 million a year, it seems unlikely to attract a buyer.

"Not as funny as it used to be" had, by last year, become so familiar a cliché that the present editor, David Thomas, based a rather desperate advertising campaign around it. "Not as funny as it used to be — much funnier," he said, but only 33,000 readers seemed to agree.

Taking over the editorship in 1989, Thomas had attempted to jettison the leisurely essays on the doddiness of foreigners and

middle-class whimsy but failed to adapt to changing tastes in humour

much of the readers. He was much taken with Dr Johnson's remark on his publisher: "Cave has no relish for humour, but he can bear it." "Felt this referred to readers of *Punch*," Muggeridge wrote.

Nevertheless, in its 150 years *Punch* has scored some notable hits, particularly in the field of parody. The Diary of a Nobody, Molesworth, Lady Aiddle, 1066 and All That, and A.J. Wentworth BA, all made their first steps in the pages of *Punch*, and it is bad luck on the magazine that their fame has served to divorce them from their origins.

Even when the written humour was at its most verbose and leadenly whimsical ("May I permit myself the luxury of a general reflection of saucepans?" might be a typical first sentence for a *Punch* article at almost any time in its history), the cartoons held strong. Pont, Lancaster, Bateman, Marc, Trog and Heath all contributed. Looking through back numbers, it is notable that the cartoons remain alert and funny long after the prose has died a death.

In the 1940s, *Punch* had a circulation of 144,000. Its dramatic deterioration over the past 30 years can be attributed to the success of the more biting satire of *Private Eye*, and the expansion of rival markets for humorous writers in newspapers and in television.

The magazine's demise holds one consolation for the present editor, however. At least when it is dead and buried — the last issue is scheduled for April 8 — he will at last be able to agree with everyone else that *Punch* isn't as funny as it used to be.

Nonetheless, in its 150 years *Punch* has scored some notable hits, particularly in the field of parody. The Diary of a Nobody, Molesworth, Lady Aiddle, 1066 and All That, and A.J. Wentworth BA, all made their first steps in the pages of *Punch*, and it is bad luck on the magazine that their fame has served to divorce them from their origins.

Nevertheless, in its 150 years *Punch* has scored some notable hits, particularly in the field of parody. The Diary of a Nobody, Molesworth, Lady Aiddle, 1066 and All That, and A.J. Wentworth BA, all made their first steps in the pages of *Punch*, and it is bad luck on the magazine that their fame has served to divorce them from their origins.

Nevertheless, in its 150 years *Punch* has scored some notable hits, particularly in the field of parody. The Diary of a Nobody, Molesworth, Lady Aiddle, 1066 and All That, and A.J. Wentworth BA, all made their first steps in the pages of *Punch*, and it is bad luck on the magazine that their fame has served to divorce them from their origins.

Nevertheless, in its 150 years *Punch* has scored some notable hits, particularly in the field of parody. The Diary of a Nobody, Molesworth, Lady Aiddle, 1066 and All That, and A.J. Wentworth BA, all made their first steps in the pages of *Punch*, and it is bad luck on the magazine that their fame has served to divorce them from their origins.

Nevertheless, in its 150 years *Punch* has scored some notable hits, particularly in the field of parody. The Diary of a Nobody, Molesworth, Lady Aiddle, 1066 and All That, and A.J. Wentworth BA, all made their first steps in the pages of *Punch*, and it is bad luck on the magazine that their fame has served to divorce them from their origins.

Nevertheless, in its 150 years *Punch* has scored some notable hits, particularly in the field of parody. The Diary of a Nobody, Molesworth, Lady Aiddle, 1066 and All That, and A.J. Wentworth BA, all made their first steps in the pages of *Punch*, and it is bad luck on the magazine that their fame has served to divorce them from their origins.

Nevertheless, in its 150 years *Punch* has scored some notable hits, particularly in the field of parody. The Diary of a Nobody, Molesworth, Lady Aiddle, 1066 and All That, and A.J. Wentworth BA, all made their first steps in the pages of *Punch*, and it is bad luck on the magazine that their fame has served to divorce them from their origins.

Nevertheless, in its 150 years *Punch* has scored some notable hits, particularly in the field of parody. The Diary of a Nobody, Molesworth, Lady Aiddle, 1066 and All That, and A.J. Wentworth BA, all made their first steps in the pages of *Punch*, and it is bad luck on the magazine that their fame has served to divorce them from their origins.

Nevertheless, in its 150 years *Punch* has scored some notable hits, particularly in the field of parody. The Diary of a Nobody, Molesworth, Lady Aiddle, 1066 and All That, and A.J. Wentworth BA, all made their first steps in the pages of *Punch*, and it is bad luck on the magazine that their fame has served to divorce them from their origins.

Nevertheless, in its 150 years *Punch* has scored some notable hits, particularly in the field of parody. The Diary of a Nobody, Molesworth, Lady Aiddle, 1066 and All That, and A.J. Wentworth BA, all made their first steps in the pages of *Punch*, and it is bad luck on the magazine that their fame has served to divorce them from their origins.

Nevertheless, in its 150 years *Punch* has scored some notable hits, particularly in the field of parody. The Diary of a Nobody, Molesworth, Lady Aiddle, 1066 and All That, and A.J. Wentworth BA, all made their first steps in the pages of *Punch*, and it is bad luck on the magazine that their fame has served to divorce them from their origins.

Nevertheless, in its 150 years *Punch* has scored some notable hits, particularly in the field of parody. The Diary of a Nobody, Molesworth, Lady Aiddle, 1066 and All That, and A.J. Wentworth BA, all made their first steps in the pages of *Punch*, and it is bad luck on the magazine that their fame has served to divorce them from their origins.

Nevertheless, in its 150 years *Punch* has scored some notable hits, particularly in the field of parody. The Diary of a Nobody, Molesworth, Lady Aiddle, 1066 and All That, and A.J. Wentworth BA, all made their first steps in the pages of *Punch*, and it is bad luck on the magazine that their fame has served to divorce them from their origins.

Nevertheless, in its 150 years *Punch* has scored some notable hits, particularly in the field of parody. The Diary of a Nobody, Molesworth, Lady Aiddle, 1066 and All That, and A.J. Wentworth BA, all made their first steps in the pages of *Punch*, and it is bad luck on the magazine that their fame has served to divorce them from their origins.

Nevertheless, in its 150 years *Punch* has scored some notable hits, particularly in the field of parody. The Diary of a Nobody, Molesworth, Lady Aiddle, 1066 and All That, and A.J. Wentworth BA, all made their first steps in the pages of *Punch*, and it is bad luck on the magazine that their fame has served to divorce them from their origins.

Nevertheless, in its 150 years *Punch* has scored some notable hits, particularly in the field of parody. The Diary of a Nobody, Molesworth, Lady Aiddle, 1066 and All That, and A.J. Wentworth BA, all made their first steps in the pages of *Punch*, and it is bad luck on the magazine that their fame has served to divorce them from their origins.

Nevertheless, in its 150 years *Punch* has scored some notable hits, particularly in the field of parody. The Diary of a Nobody, Molesworth, Lady Aiddle, 1066 and All That, and A.J. Wentworth BA, all made their first steps in the pages of *Punch*, and it is bad luck on the magazine that their fame has served to divorce them from their origins.

Nevertheless, in its 150 years *Punch* has scored some notable hits, particularly in the field of parody. The Diary of a Nobody, Molesworth, Lady Aiddle, 1066 and All That, and A.J. Wentworth BA, all made their first steps in the pages of *Punch*, and it is bad luck on the magazine that their fame has served to divorce them from their origins.

Nevertheless, in its 150 years *Punch* has scored some notable hits, particularly in the field of parody. The Diary of a Nobody, Molesworth, Lady Aiddle, 1066 and All That, and A.J. Wentworth BA, all made their first steps in the pages of *Punch*, and it is bad luck on the magazine that their fame has served to divorce them from their origins.

Nevertheless, in its 150 years *Punch* has scored some notable hits, particularly in the field of parody. The Diary of a Nobody, Molesworth, Lady Aiddle, 1066 and All That, and A.J. Wentworth BA, all made their first steps in the pages of *Punch*, and it is bad luck on the magazine that their fame has served to divorce them from their origins.

Nevertheless, in its 150 years *Punch* has scored some notable hits, particularly in the field of parody. The Diary of a Nobody, Molesworth, Lady Aiddle, 1066 and All That, and A.J. Wentworth BA, all made their first steps in the pages of *Punch*, and it is bad luck on the magazine that their fame has served to divorce them from their origins.

Nevertheless, in its 150 years *Punch* has scored some notable hits, particularly in the field of parody. The Diary of a Nobody, Molesworth, Lady Aiddle, 1066 and All That, and A.J. Wentworth BA, all made their first steps in the pages of *Punch*, and it is bad luck on the magazine that their fame has served to divorce them from their origins.

Nevertheless, in its 150 years *Punch* has scored some notable hits, particularly in the field of parody. The Diary of a Nobody, Molesworth, Lady Aiddle, 1066 and All That, and A.J. Wentworth BA, all made their first steps in the pages of *Punch*, and it is bad luck on the magazine that their fame has served to divorce them from their origins.

Nevertheless, in its 150 years *Punch*

Protest by Kurds turns into battle with police

By STEWART TENDER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

THE Police Complaints Authority began an investigation last night into police tactics and the use of truncheons against Kurdish demonstrators tried to rush the Turkish embassy in Belgrave Square, Scotland Yard's complaints investigation bureau called in the authority after one demonstrator was flown unconscious to hospital with head injuries.

The enquiry started after conflicting reports of the scene outside the embassy as police reinforcements were drafted in to confront about 200 demonstrators. Police say the demonstrators, who stoned the embassy and broke a number of windows, were armed with an axe and a sledgehammer and caught a unit of about 20 police unaware. However, some witnesses accused the police of being too aggressive.

The injured man was taken to the Royal London hospital by helicopter. Later the Yard said he was not as seriously

injured as first thought. Two men were treated for injuries, one for seven stitches, and a police officer was taken to Westminster hospital with head injuries, broken fingers and shock and then released. Twenty people were arrested at the square, and another eight were held later when about 50 demonstrators occupied part of Bush House, headquarters of the BBC World Service.

Police were at the scene because they had been told at very short notice that there would be a small demonstration. The police were "shocked and surprised by the ferocity" of the attack. Extra officers were called in until there were about sixty at the square. No police with riot equipment were available and the officers drew their truncheons.

Kathy Shut saw the clashes from her office. She said: "What I saw was disgusting. There were demonstrators lying on the floor being kicked and beaten up with truncheons by the police."

Another witness, Adam Baker, from the Local Government Management Board, said police had been attacked by the protesters. He said: "I would certainly say they [the police] were provoked. The demonstrators were very aggressive, hitting cars and throwing things."

Estella Schmid, of the Kurdish Information Centre, said: "It was a spontaneous march starting in Marble Arch. The police tried to stop them. Half the people there were women and children. The fact is that the police attacked the march. There was no provocation."

Chief Superintendent Alan Evershed, of the Yard's diplomatic protection group, said: "I don't know anything about excessive force. The demonstrators were armed with pick axe handles and club hammers."

Istanbul ambush, page 10

Barbecue battle led to death

A DISPUTE over smoke from a barbecue ended in death. The Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.

Andrew Kyriacou, a driving instructor aged 36, lit the barbecue in his patio garden in Southwark, south London, one afternoon last July. The smoke from it annoyed Terrance Norman, a lorry driver, whose balcony overlooked the patio.

Mr Norman and his wife complained loudly and abusively, and followed up their complaints with two buckets of water which hit the barbecue and splashed. Mr Kyriacou, his wife Kay and their daughter Zoe aged two, David Calver-Smith, for the prosecution, said:

Mr Norman, aged 53, then challenged Mr Kyriacou who ran up to the Normans' flat and kicked in the door. A fight broke out, starting with fists but in which both men hit each other with a rock, used by the Normans as a door stop. Mr Calver-Smith said: "Two witnesses saw Norman take hold of a knife near the balcony door and stab Mr Kyriacou in the chest," he continued.

Mr Kyriacou died from a massive haemorrhage in his lungs. Mr Norman was said to have told police that what happened was self defence. He denies murder.

The trial continues today.



Street violence: police stand in front of smashed windows at the Trinidad embassy, mistaken by demonstrators for Turkey's. Top, a Kurdish demonstrator is helped to an ambulance after the battle. Above, Kurds protesting at treatment to their countrymen outside the Turkish embassy before the violence started



Home head accused of child sex abuse

By PETER DAVENPORT

A SOCIAL worker in charge of a children's home abused young boys placed in his care and protection, a jury was told yesterday.

Christopher Oldfield, the officer in charge of the council-run Elm Tree Farm community home at Stockton-on-Tees, Cleveland, was regarded as a father figure by all the children in his charge. Newcastle upon Tyne crown court was told. He is accused of betraying their trust and subjecting them to six years of abuse for his own sexual gratification.

Mr Oldfield, aged 49, denies seven specimen charges of indecent assault and one of

buggery involving seven boys between 1977 and 1983.

Although one child complained about his treatment in 1983 the abuse continued because police did not believe his allegations, the court was told. Mr Oldfield was arrested at the end of 1990.

The boys believed that they were the "favoured few" when Mr Oldfield invited them to his flat to watch video films or for holidays in his cabin cruiser on the Leeds-Liverpool canal, but in betrayed their trust and subjected them to a variety of sexual offences. James Spencer, QC, for the prosecution, told the court.

The trial continues today.

BBC bans repeats on prime time TV

By MELINDA WITSTOCK, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

REPEATS. American series and big-prize game shows are to be banned from prime time BBC schedules from this autumn as part of a five-year plan aimed at keeping television audiences big enough to justify the licence fee.

Will Wyatt, managing director of BBC Television, is determined to prove that it can entertain and inform, while offering something that his commercial rivals do not provide. He has promised hundreds more hours each year of original drama and comedy, as well as new light entertainment formats subsidy more upmarket than those of ITV. An extra £60 million a

year will be spent on new programmes. "We need another golden age of BBC television," he said.

Mr Wyatt's initiative follows last autumn's collapse in the popularity of BBC1. Ratings fell to about 33.34 per cent, a full ten points behind ITV. The move comes when morale among programme makers has slumped, amid mounting redundancies and cost-cutting reforms.

• The BBC yesterday announced 121 redundancies in its design and equipment department.

Media
L&T section, pages 6, 7

McGuigan banned for 129mph drive on coastal road

By ALISON ROBERTS

BARRY McGuigan, former world featherweight boxing champion, was fined £300 and banned from driving for eight weeks yesterday for speeding.

McGuigan was caught driving his BMW 325i at 129mph on November 9, last year, on the north Wales coastal road as he returned home to Faversham in Kent. He had spent the previous night judging a Miss Boxer shorts competition in Llandudno, magistrates in Flint were told.

Darell Jones, for the prosecution, said that police had pulled McGuigan over on the eastbound carriageway of the A55 at Caerwys, Cwyd. The

retired boxer, aged 31, apologised and said that he was rushing to get home to be with his son, Blane, aged eight, who had an ear infection.

McGuigan's solicitor, John Gregory, said the speed that the officer clocked had frightened McGuigan and within ten days he had sold the BMW. He now drove a four-wheel drive vehicle with a top speed of 85mph.

McGuigan said after the hearing: "Eight weeks is a long time with the amount of travelling I do."

McGuigan was described as a sports commentator and after-dinner speaker who also did charity work. He drove up to 70,000 miles a year. During the eight-week ban he will employ four drivers to take him around the country.

McGuigan was worried about the effect of the incident on young people who looked up to him, Mr Gregory said.

McGuigan is appealing against a High Court decision ordering him and the Channel 5 video company to pay his ex-manager Barney Eastwood £450,000 damages plus costs for libel over claims he made in a video film.

How The Times spurned Trollope travel tales

By MATTHEW D'ANCONA

"When speaking of the press," Anthony Trollope wrote, "it is impossible to do other than speak of *The Times*." Yet the newspaper that Trollope regarded as an institution of the realm did not return the compliment to the greatest novelist, it was disclosed last night.

More than a century after the event, Simon Jenkins, editor of *The Times*, told 250 guests at the Trollope Society's annual dinner in London of a hitherto unknown gaffe in the newspaper's history, undusting a rejection letter that it

sent to Trollope, dated April 17, 1871.

"Reluctance to say 'No' has made me postpone a disagreeable task," Mowbray Morris, general manager of *The Times*, wrote in reply to an offer from Trollope to write for the paper during a visit to Australia.

"We feel flattered by your offer to place a practised pen and a popular name at our disposal, but the Editor doubts his being able to give you the ample space enough to develop your subject." Trollope found plenty of space in his own pages to satirise the newspaper, as *The Jupiter*, represented by Tom Towers — a charac-

ter who Trollope insisted was not based on John Thaddeus Delane, editor of *The Times* for 36 years of the last century.

Trollope savaged inaccurate reporting and editorial arrogance, caricatured the worst journalistic tendencies and created in Quintus Slade, editor of the fictional *People's Banner*, a character "not remarkable for his clean linen", which may be uncomfortably familiar to today's tabloid hacks.

Yet Trollope's fascination with the sharpness of his wit. Though dismissive of his reviews, he remembered them

word for word. Newspapers were central to many of his 47 novels, at present being edited by the Trollope Society, and epitomised the brave new England of swift communication that so entranced him.

Furthermore, as the present editor of *The Times* remarked, the novelist's style remains a model to all serious newspaper writers aspiring to a lucid prose that shuns abstraction and ripples with human character. Last night, *The Times* offered its apologies to Trollope for such a slip of judgment, but did it in a form that he would surely have appreciated: a scoop.

ADVERTISEMENT

THE HEARING

A hearing on the settlement will be held before Judge Speigel on June 5th, 1992, at 10.00am, Courtroom 842, United States Post Office and Courthouse, 100 East Fifth Street, Cincinnati, Ohio, USA, to determine whether the settlement is fair. You or your lawyer may attend.

WHAT SHOULD I DO NOW?

If you have reason to believe that you or your spouse has a C-C valve, you should get more information by completing and returning the "Information Form" below without delay.

Returning the "Information Form" will not commit you to any course of action, but will provide you with the information you need to protect your rights. Also, returning the form will assure that the court has your name and address so that you can receive the money and other benefits of the settlement, if you do not exclude yourself from the lawsuit.

You may feel you need further legal information. If so you may receive it without charge to yourself by indicating this in the appropriate space on the "Information Form".

You may also object to the settlement, or exclude yourself from the lawsuit. These terms, and their implications for you, are explained in the information you will receive after you return the "Information Form". You will not be able to object or exclude yourself, however, unless you do so in writing to Daniel J. Lyons, Jr., Deputy Clerk, United States Post Office and Courthouse, 100 East Fifth Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202, USA, by no later than June 1st, 1992.

If you do not exclude yourself, you will be bound by the settlement and will not be allowed to bring a lawsuit relating to your or your spouse's C-C heart valve, except to enforce the settlement agreement or if the valve malfunctions.

IMPORTANT

To protect your rights, you should get more information.

INFORMATION FORM

Name of valve recipient _____

Address _____

Spouse name _____

Address if different _____

Mail to: Stanley M Chesley Esq
Waite, Schneider, Bayless & Chesley Co., L.P.A.

1513 Central Trust Tower

Cincinnati, Ohio, 45202 USA

FAX (513) 621-0262

Mr Chesley is a lawyer appointed by the court to represent C-C valve patients and their spouses worldwide.

I would like to be contacted by a European based lawyer appointed by Mr Chesley who will communicate with me in the following language (indicate one only):

Dutch English French German

Greek Italian Portuguese Spanish

Please obtain proof that you or your spouse is a recipient of a Bjork-Shiley C-C heart valve. You will be asked to provide this information at a later time to support your claim.

LEGAL NOTICE

ATTENTION!!! IMPORTANT NOTICE TO PEOPLE WITH BJORK-SHILEY CONVEXO-CONCAVE ARTIFICIAL HEART VALVES (NOT THE MONOSTRUT) AND SPOUSES

This notice is for people with the Bjork-Shiley Convexo-Concave ("C-C") artificial heart valve, and their spouses and this informs you of your legal rights.

There has been a problem with a small number of these particular valves.

If you or your spouse has another Bjork-Shiley valve, such as the Monostrut, or some other manufacturers' valve, then this notice does not apply to you.

This is a legal notice to notify you of a lawsuit in the USA which also affects people outside of the USA. If you have a Bjork-Shiley C-C valve you are entitled to money and other benefits.

There is no medical information in this notice. If you have any medical questions about your valve, you should ask your doctor or the implanting hospital.

THE LAWSUIT

A lawsuit in Cincinnati, Ohio, USA, has been filed on behalf of all people in the world with the Bjork-Shiley C-C valve. The name of the lawsuit is Bowling, et al v Shiley Incorporated and Pfizer Inc, Case No C-1-256. It is pending before Judge S Arthur Speigel in the US District Court in Cincinnati, Ohio. This notice provides you with some brief information about this lawsuit.

HOW DO I KNOW IF I HAVE A C-C VALVE?

If you received a heart valve before 1979, or after 1986, you probably do not have a C-C valve.

You can tell if you have a C-C valve by looking at your implant card if you received one after your surgery. If you have a Bjork-Shiley valve and the serial number of your valve has the letter "C" in it, you have a C-C valve. If the serial number does not have the letter "C", you do not have a C-C valve. Your doctor may also be able to help you find out if you have a C-C valve.

ONCE AGAIN, IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A C-C VALVE, THIS NOTICE DOES NOT AFFECT YOU. IF YOU DO HAVE A C-C VALVE, PLEASE READ THIS NOTICE CAREFULLY.

WHAT DOES THE SETTLEMENT PROVIDE?

The settlement being considered by the court in Ohio provides:

- a payment to you or your spouse that can be used for any purpose, including consultation with a physician or other health care provider;
- additional medical research that may benefit you;
- the availability of a guaranteed, prompt settlement should a fracture of the valve occur. In that event if you do not accept the guaranteed payment, you may seek compensation through arbitration, or file a lawsuit.

Please complete the "Information Form" to obtain more details about the settlement.



Equal opportunities conference

Police chief accuses officers of sex bias

BY STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

A WOMAN police officer who wanted to join a motorcycle course was taken to a heavily loaded 1,000cc machine left lying on its side and told she could have a place if she lifted the machine, an international police conference on equal opportunities was told yesterday. No male officers had to pass the test.

The challenge was not an isolated example of discrimination, according to Baden Skitt, chief constable of Hertfordshire and the chairman of a national police committee on equal opportunities. When he asked a female officer to question her colleagues about discrimination, all 14 officers said they had been discriminated against and 13 also reported sexual harassment although it had not been asked if that had happened.

Mr Skitt, speaking to a week-long conference on equality organised by the Home Office and a European network of women police officers, said the 14, taken from a

number of forces, might not be large enough to comprise a sample group but if "discriminatory practices were found to be present for such a small group it must give cause for concern about the extent to which it may be prevalent".

In another case, a woman officer who wanted to become a detective was questioned by her sergeant about her religion. Mr Skitt said when she disclosed she was Roman Catholic the sergeant said he would only recommend her if she could prove she was taking the pill. He said he did not support someone for CID work who could become pregnant and leave.

He also pointed to the case of a woman officer in a traffic department who applied to take a course for a heavy goods vehicle licence. She was refused several times and eventually told women were not allocated to the course. She took the course privately and qualified, and was then instructed to drive the trucks.

Women and work
L&T section, pages 4, 5

Addressing over 300 delegates from Britain, Europe, America, and the Far East, Mr Skitt said the way to combat discrimination was to ensure cases were brought out into the open and pursued through grievance procedures if necessary. Police managers had to learn discrimination was unacceptable and why. Support groups should also be encouraged.

"The message has to be in cases of personal discrimination, whatever happens, get the problem out in the open, train people and provide the support by which it can be recognised and dealt with," Mr Skitt said.

Sir John Woodcock, chief inspector of constabulary, said that the number of women police officers had risen from 14,513 in 1990 to 15,061 last year, representing more than 11 per cent of the total strength.



Faces of courage: three children from Northern Ireland who were among 48 presented with Young Citizens awards for bravery at London's Guildhall yesterday. Andrew Ferguson, aged eight, was forced to watch as IRA gunmen shot dead his father after bursting into the family's home in Belfast nearly a year ago.

Orla and Maeve O'Reilly, identical twins aged 12, from Derry, helped their father to care for their nine brothers and sisters after their mother died last October. The awards, set

up in memory of Ross McWhirter, former editor of the *Guinness Book of Records*, who was killed by an IRA bomb in 1975, were presented by Sir Brian Jenkins, Lord Mayor of London and the comedian Frank Carson.

Two teenage boys won the top awards. Thomas Roberts, aged 15, saved his teacher's life after a man burst into the classroom and shot the teacher in the arm. Thomas, of Keynsham, Bristol, used his shirt as a bandage to stem the bleeding. Christian Bury, aged 16, from Westcliff-on-

Sea, Essex, rescued a child aged 18 months who fell into a reservoir. The boys were chosen from more than 1,000 nominations.

Runners-up were: Jamie Dale, aged 14, of Grimsby, South Humberside; Steven Ashford, 16, of Lowestoft, Suffolk; Joanne Pinder, 17, of Dewsbury, West Yorkshire; Alan Simpson, 13, of Rugby, Warwickshire; Neil Hardy, 18, of Grantham, Lincolnshire; Nicola Gibbons, 18, of Poole, Dorset; and Alexander Holland, 15, of Leicestershire.

Reluctant patients risk dying of cancer

BY JEREMY LAURANCE,
HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

EMBARRASSMENT and a reluctance to trouble the family doctor with minor symptoms are costing 15,000 lives a year through delayed diagnosis of two of the most common cancers.

Better surgical techniques have brought significant improvements in survival rates for patients with stomach and bowel cancer, specialists from the British Society of Gastroenterology said yesterday. In the best centres a cure rate of more than 90 per cent is being achieved for patients in the early stage of the disease.

But squeamishness about reporting blood in the stool, the commonest early warning sign of bowel cancer, and a reluctance to complain about indigestion, the commonest sign of stomach cancer, are sending patients to an early grave.

Roger Leicester, consultant colorectal surgeon at St George's Hospital, London, said that of the 24,000 new cases of bowel cancer seen every year, well over half were incurable because the disease was too far advanced.

A study in Nottingham, to be presented to the society's spring meeting in Sheffield this week, showed that when the population was offered a simple screening test to detect occult (invisible) blood in the stool, the proportion of bowel cancers detected at the earliest stage rose from 10 to 50 per cent compared with 5 per cent nationally. Of 77,500 people offered the test just over half accepted it.

Often, however, the bleeding is obvious but patients do nothing about it. "Any patient over 45 with persistent rectal bleeding should consult their GP especially if the blood is dark red or mixed in with the stool," Michael Robinson, author of the Nottingham study said.

Mr Leicester said 12,000 of the 17,000 deaths a year from bowel cancer might be prevented if patients and doctors were more alert to warning signs and hospitals had adequate diagnostic facilities. Bowel cancer was second only to lung cancer in men, killed seven times as many as cervical cancer in women, and was increasing, he said.

Specialists said that 3,000 of the 10,000 deaths a year from stomach cancer could be prevented by earlier referral and the provision of more facilities for endoscopy in hospitals.

Gunman 'heard voices'

BY PETER DAVENPORT

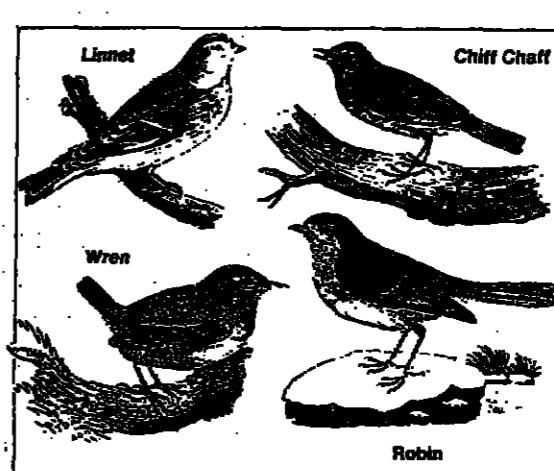
ALBERT Dryden, accused of murdering a council planning officer in a dispute over an illegally built bungalow, yesterday said that he had been "plagued" by voices before and after the killing.

Mr Dryden told Newcastle upon Tyne crown court that he remembered a bulldozer that he had been "plagued" by voices before and after the killing.

Mr Dryden said Newcastle upon Tyne crown court that he remembered a bulldozer that he had been "plagued" by voices before and after the killing.

Earlier he claimed that the long-running dispute had left him so depressed that he had repeatedly played "Russian roulette" with the revolver involved in the alleged murder, but the hammer had always landed on empty.

Mr Dryden, aged 51, denied murdering Harry Collyer, a planning officer with Derwentside council, and three charges of attempted murder. The trial continues today.



Songbirds' silence blamed on weather

BY NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

THE wren, the whitethroat and the chiff-chaff are having a hard time. With a wide range of other British birds, their numbers declined last year, a time when the sound of songbirds was stilled.

Results of an annual survey of bird numbers by the British Trust for Ornithology show that for many species last year was the worst since the survey began in 1981. Among resident birds there were fewer Dunnocks, blackbirds, song thrushes and reed buntings than in any of the past ten years, while among the migrants the same was true of the reed warbler, the whitethroat, the lesser whitethroat and the willow warbler.

Writing in *BTO News*, Will Peach and Stephen Baillie of the trust, mainly blame the weather. Two weeks of severe winter in February last year accounted for the huge reduction in the numbers of wrens and other small resident birds. Cold, wet weather in June reduced the numbers of surviving young of most species.

Among the migrants, both of which showed long-term declines.

A copy of the By-laws incorporating the proposed amendments, a brochure containing an explanation of the proposed changes and proxy forms will be supplied to all members of AMP who apply either personally or by any of AMP's major customer service centres in writing to the Secretary at the address below.

A ballot must be held on the resolutions for changing the By-laws, and so the Chairman of the General Meeting will call for a formal ballot on the 2 resolutions which will close at the conclusion of the meeting. Arrangements are being made for those members of AMP who are registered on the postal voters' roll to be given an opportunity to lodge their votes in the meantime by mail.

Proxies:

A member entitled to attend and vote may appoint a proxy to attend and, where there is a ballot, vote instead of the member. A proxy must be a member, except where the appointor is a corporation. Forms must be deposited with the Returning Officer at the address below not later than 48 hours before the General Meeting.

AMP Society
24th Floor
AMP Building
Alfred Street
SYDNEY COVE
New South Wales 2000
AUSTRALIA

By order of the Board
D.G. Robinson, Secretary
25 March 1992

C2402

Home rescue schemes fail to halt any repossession

By RACHEL KELLY, PROPERTY CORRESPONDENT

NOT one family has been saved from repossession by the mortgage rescue schemes announced by Norman Lamont in December, according to the Council of Mortgage Lenders. The Chancellor claimed that the schemes would prevent 40,000 repossession in 1992.

Moreover, figures from the Lord Chancellor's department show that the level of court applications for evictions is almost the same as in 1991, the record year for repossession.

Lenders started 13,781 actions in county courts last month, compared with 13,897 in February last year. In January there were 14,223 actions entered, just down on the 14,271 for the corresponding month last year.

Not all repossession actions lead to repossession, but the court statistics are seen as a reliable guide to the eventual level of repossession.

Mortgage rescue schemes are mainly mortgage-to-rent schemes involving lenders and housing associations. Under the schemes building societies offer reduced rate loans to housing associations to buy properties from borrowers in arrears. But the Council of Mortgage Lenders confirms that three months on, not a single scheme has been completed.

A spokeswoman said: "The reason is that the mortgage-to-rent schemes are very complicated. Even a normal property transaction takes two months. It is not unreasonable that these schemes should take time."

Delays were caused by difficulties over deciding who should be rescued; the need for independent legal advice for all parties and independent valuations; and the number of parties involved, the council spokeswoman

Homes, L&T section, page 10

Burglars steal Vestey heirlooms

Burglars at the home of a member of the millionaire Vestey family have stolen heirlooms and a racing trophy.

Thieves took family silver valued at £20,000 from the Georgian mansion of Timotheus Vestey, general manager of the Vestey Group, whose family's interests include the Downton butchers chain. The house is at Ashton, near Saffron Walden, Essex.

The stolen items included a solid silver Thurlow Hunt racing trophy, worth £3,000, which Mr Vestey won last month. The thieves also took a Hanoverian silver table dinner service and a silver carriage clock, both bearing the Vestey crest of an antelope head with three stars underneath.

Lawyer's fraud
William Templeton, aged 35, of Lenzie, near Glasgow, has been struck off the solicitors' roll by the Law Society of Scotland for embezzling £2,432 from clients of the law firm that employed him and seeking a mortgage by fraud after gaining a social security number by using a dead man's birth certificate.

Generosity low
Yorkshire people, noted for parsimony, have always given a poor response to appeals for the York Minister Fund, according to the Earl of Halifax, its chairman, marking its 25th anniversary. "They do not appear to be incredibly generous," he said.

Peer accused
The Marquess of Bristol, aged 37, appeared before magistrates at Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, yesterday accused of possessing and intending to supply heroin and cocaine with a street value of about £800. The case was adjourned for 14 days.

Editor killed
Peter Bolt, aged 32, editor of *Motor Cycle News*, died when the Honda 900 he was riding collided with the rear of a van on the A43 in Northamptonshire, police said yesterday.

Working mothers favour role swap

By DAVID YOUNG

HALF of working mothers would happily swap roles with their husbands to be the main family breadwinner, according to a survey. Almost half said that they were no better at looking after children than men.

The survey, conducted by Gallup for the high street chain BHs, covered 400 working mothers in the run-up to the election and mothering Sunday. BHs and the Working Mothers Association, which supported the survey, said: "The fact working mothers are now prepared to relinquish their traditional responsibilities as mother and homemaker suggests that the last bastion of family life as we know it is about to crumble in favour of a more truly equal society."

The survey, which forms the basis of *The Working Mum's Manifesto*, free from BHs branches, shows that there is a significant number of "floating voters" among working mothers, with 17 per cent still to decide which party to support.

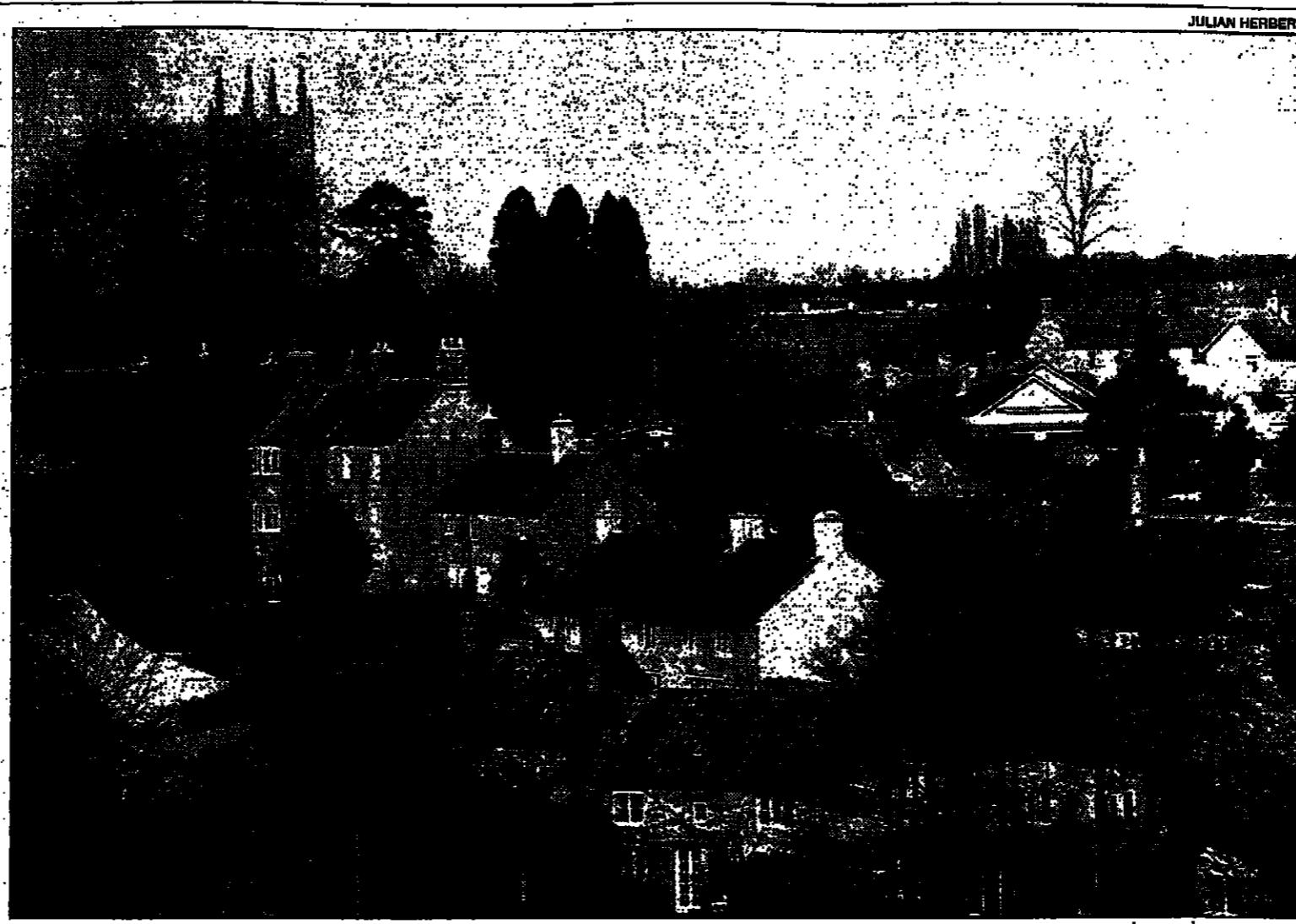
Almost all think that the government should review its attitude to working mothers. They suggest that there should be more creches in the community, increased after-school care, subsidised child care, tax relief on child care, and improved maternity leave.

Working mothers also think that employers should provide more part-time jobs, more job-sharing and more flexible hours. They suggest that employers should consider offering them longer holidays — unpaid if necessary — to coincide with school holidays.

They feel that they need the stamina of a long-distance runner and an unfatigable approach to life. They should also have a partner who knows not only where to buy bleach but how to clean a toilet with it.

More than 90 per cent admitted that they find the price of combining work with motherhood too high. The most common complaint was a lack of time to spend on themselves.

Women, L&T section, pages 4 & 5



Jack's plum: the village of Mells, Somerset, three miles from Whatley quarry, which was given to Jack Horner by Henry VIII

Cultural sites 'at risk' from quarrying

By JOHN YOUNG

A PUBLIC enquiry begins on April 7 into an application to extend working at Whatley quarry, near the village of Mells, in Somerset.

The Council for the Protection of Rural England is opposing the application. It claims that the quarry, one of four within three miles of the village, is already among the largest in Europe. The local Mendip stone has long been prized by the construction industry.

The village is famous as the "plum" acquired by Little Jack Horner in the nursery rhyme. Before the Reformation it belonged to the monks of Glastonbury Abbey and after the dissolution of the monasteries was presented to Horner by Henry VIII.

The council says three other "culturally important" sites are threatened by mineral extraction, including Throop Clump, which adjoins Egdon Heath, Dorset, setting for Thomas Hardy's *The Return of the Native*.

Land a free trip when you fly United to America.

Fly anywhere United flies in the U.S.
New York (JFK & Newark), Washington, Los Angeles,
San Francisco, Seattle and over 200 cities beyond.

When you fly United to the States, you can earn a free round-trip ticket to any of over 200 U.S. cities in the United Airlines/United Express network.

On the way you can enjoy such refreshments as Dom Pérignon, Beluga caviar and Godiva chocolates in First Class. Or choose United's Commissaire Class, elevating international business class to its highest form of civility. You can earn a free trip by flying any class of service United offers.

Just complete your paid round-trip Transatlantic flight by June 15. Then take your free travel to the U.S. between September 15, 1992 and February 28, 1993.

Furthermore, the Mileage Plus points you accrue on your Transatlantic flights can even be used for travel in Europe. Beginning April 1, you can redeem your Mileage Plus miles for flights on British Midland's extensive network throughout the U.K., Ireland and the rest of Europe, including Nice, Palma, Malaga, Brussels and Paris.

The offer is available to all United Mileage Plus members so if you're not a member yet, this is a great time to join.

Call your travel agent or United on 0800 888 555, and come fly the airline that's uniting the world. Come fly the friendly skies.

Fly	Receive
First Class round-trip between Europe and the U.S.	Commissaire Class round-trip ticket between Europe and the U.S.
Commissaire Class round-trip between Europe and the U.S.	Economy round-trip ticket between Europe and the U.S.
Full fare Economy round-trip between Europe and the U.S.	Economy round-trip ticket between Europe and the U.S.

UNITED
AIRLINES

FARE FACTS: To qualify, travel must be completed by June 15, 1992. Qualifying travel must use published full First, full Commissaire or full Economy fares. Offer not valid on discounted fares in any cabin. Free award travel must be completed between September 15, 1992 and February 28, 1993. Mileage Plus Silver Award black-out dates apply. Reservations for award travel must be made at least 14 days prior to departure and must include a Saturday night stay. Certificates are not combinable with any United Airlines discount, coupon or promotional offer or with Mileage Plus travel awards. Certificates are not transferable except to family members of the same surname and may not be bartered or sold; violators may be prosecuted, and tickets may be confiscated at any point during travel. Free trips earned are in addition to regular mileage benefits and any bonus miles to which you are entitled. However, only one free trip can be earned for each qualifying trip, regardless of other special promotions for which you may qualify. Other restrictions may apply. Offices, routes and free travel are subject to local government approvals where required.

ELECTION 92

WEDNESDAY MARCH 25 1992

News and analysis

Minimum wage	7
SNP challenge	8
Kaufman sighted	9

Poll finds that campaign has left attitudes unchanged

Thatcher factor fails to tip balance for Tories

By ROBIN OAKLEY
POLITICAL EDITOR

THE much-publicised entry of Margaret Thatcher into the Conservative election campaign is unlikely to sway many floating voters, according to a new Mori poll for *The Times*.

When poll respondents were asked if her participation would help or harm the Tory cause, 28 per cent thought she would help the Conservatives, 30 per cent thought she would harm their cause and 35 per cent reckoned that she would make no difference. Attitudes tended to go with party support. Among Tories 45 per cent thought she would help and only 16 per cent that she would harm her party. Among Labour supporters the verdict was 44 to 18 the other way.

Among the much sought-after C2s, 26 per cent think she will help and 29 per cent that she will harm her party. Among potential Liberal Democrat switchers, a main Tory target, just over a quarter think

that she will help the Tories and more than a third think she will harm them.

The election campaign so far has done little to change people's perceptions on which party has the best policies. Labour leads the Conservatives 52 to 22 on health care, 43 to 19 on unemployment, 39 to 25 on education and 45 to 23 on housing. The Conservatives lead Labour 46 to 19 on defence, 36 to 22 on law and order and 35 to 25 on Europe.

The Conservatives are down three points on health compared with last week, two points on law and order and education and one point on defence.

The Liberal Democrats are proved to have been right to continue highlighting education, as they did again yesterday. Despite saying that they would actually raise taxes to boost education spending they win their best rating on education, with 15 per cent thinking they have the best policy. In campaigning hard against the "wasted vote" theory, they have been heartened to

1987 the final turnout was 75 per cent. Mori asked several questions designed to test the impact of the Conservative campaign on Labour's taxation policies, which was the main feature of the first week's exchanges. More than half of those questioned (55 per cent) believe they will end up paying most tax under a Labour government to 23 per cent who say they would under the Tories. Two thirds of those questioned believe that government spending on public services would be highest under Labour and only 14 per cent that the Conservatives would spend more.

When people were asked what they thought the impact of Labour's tax and spending plans would be on them 35 per cent said it would be bad and 26 per cent that it would be good. The verdict among C2s was 30 per cent good, 27 per cent bad. But when people were asked what they thought the impact would be on the average family, the verdict was more favourable. Nearly four in ten (38 per cent) thought it would be good

while only 31 per cent thought it would be bad. Asked what the effect would be on the well-off, more than two thirds believed the impact would be very or fairly bad, including 83 per cent of the ABs.

There is clear public distaste for the way the election is being conducted. When people were asked whether the election should be fought by the parties putting forward their own policies and personalities or by pointing out what was wrong with others, 66 per cent called for accentuation of the positive and only 9 per cent for negative campaigning. When asked how they thought the campaign was actually being fought the result was virtually a mirror image. Just 12 per cent thought it was being fought positively and nearly two thirds (62 per cent) thought it was being fought negatively.

Mori interviewed a representative quota sample of 1109 electors in 55 constituencies face to face on March 23. Data were weighted by gender, age, class and region. © Mori/Times.

Health service

Labour uses child actors to stir emotions

By PHILIP WEBSTER AND JILL SHERMAN

LABOUR sought to throw health into the centre of the general election campaign last night as Neil Kinnock and Robin Cook alleged that the health service was under threat of privatisation from a Conservative government.

The Labour leadership played what it believes to be its strongest electoral card with an emotive election broadcast contrasting the cases of two little girls needing hospital treatment, one whose parents could pay £200 for an operation privately, and the other, suffering from a painful ear complaint, who had to wait for nine months for a health service operation.

At the beginning of a three-day health offensive, Mr Kinnock challenged John Major to a televised debate on the subject. He called on the prime minister to spell out the Tory "secret agenda" for the NHS, pointing out that the health reforms had not even been mentioned in 1987.

Mr Cook published what he called a "dossier" containing letters from patients who had been obliged to go private because they could not obtain the treatment they need on the health service.

The shadow health secretary said the election would decide the future direction of health — "whether that health service continues down the road marked privatisation under the Conservatives or is restored as a public service under a Labour government".

William Waldegrave, the health secretary, hit back last night, stating that the privatisation claims were "complete poppycock".

Virginia Bottomley, health minister, challenged Mr Cook in a letter over what she called "some of the most disgraceful scares with which you have been associated and which were subsequently proved unfounded".

Listing three "samples" of the various misleading allegations, Mrs Bottomley wrote: "Your whole strategy has been based on the principle that the more people you can frighten the better. You will not get away with frightening people in this cynical way. Your tactics will neither be forgiven nor forgotten."

The Labour broadcast, which used children as actors, is set to a soulful song entitled *Someone Really Loves You*, and opened with the words: "The story of two girls with the same problem — one can afford private treatment, the other can't." It ended with the message: "It's their future, don't let it end in tears."

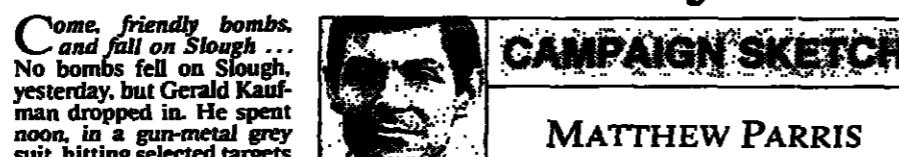
Although the girls in the film were actresses, the party said the situation was based on fact. Mr Cook told a London news conference that the broadcast was prompted by a letter from a father who explained that his daughter had been waiting 11 months for treatment for an operation for water on the ear. He was aware that the surgeon who had carried out the operation had an extensive private



Enough is enough: Douglas Hurd, visiting a nursery school in Tooting Bec, south London, to support the local Conservative candidate, finds one voter of the future who has already heard too much electioneering

Kaufman emerges as Labour's man in grey suit — occasionally shown but never seen

Leading article, page 13



CAMPAIGN SKETCH

MATTHEW PARRIS

Come, friendly bombs... and fall on Slough...

No bombs fell on Slough, yesterday, but Gerald Kaufman dropped in. He spent noon, in a gun-metal grey suit, hitting selected targets in the town. Earlier, he had graced a Westminster press conference.

In between, Glenys Kinnock visited a bakery dressed head to toe in the fluorescent pink of a *Teddy Boy's* socks. Your sketch writer's day was therefore a sandwich: two grey slices of Kaufman with a tiling of cherry-coloured, Glenys between.

And the garnish? A sprinkling of grated carrot. Rob in Cook unveiled another unintelligible Labour poster, in a rainstorm and a hail of abuse from the Workers' Revolutionary Party, after five policeman had removed a confused black lady. Hey-ho.

We started at 7.45am at a press conference on Labour's "computer skills initiative". Question arises why Mr Kaufman, who is Labour's foreign affairs spokesman, should have chosen this for his moment in the spotlight. He was it Gordon Brown? All the computer showed was a little geometric design made of asterisks and the words "Good morning, it's Mike in Glasgow.

"Good morning, it's Colm in London." Was it Gordon Brown? I'd be delighted to have a full-scale debate with him on prime-time TV," said Mr Kaufman. All his colleagues' brows furrowed. Minutes later they took him away for a "briefing with

the foreign press corps". This, they said, was closed to the British press corps. It may be that Mr Kaufman was simply locked in a room. It was only 8.15. He was not required in Slough until 11.00.

I went to observe Mrs Kinnock and Mrs Beckett watching custard rolls being made at the South London Polytechnic.

I'm afraid Mrs Beckett was completely upstaged. Glenys hardly spoke, she just was in violent power-padded pink. Like a silent movie without a stage pianist, she swanned through the catering faculty.

She squirmed custard dollops on to little pastry stars; she placed maraschino cherries on to cakes and she inspected mixing machines. The photographers loved it.

"Mrs Kinnock, could you just smile for me?" Only once did she utter publicly an uncontroversial remark, but made with marvellous assurance. It was as she entered the bread kitchen. "I can smell it," she said.

But I had to go, haunted by the thought that they were imprisoning Mr Kaufman and forcing him to make the shortest public appearances, claiming that he is all right. I reached the Labour HQ in Slough in time for his advertised

INFLUENTIAL ISSUES

Q: How much will your vote be influenced by the parties' policies on...?
Q: Which party has the best policy on...?

Rnk issue	Influenced "a great deal" (%)	Best party (%)
1 Healthcare	55	Lab +30
2 Unemployment	49	C +24
3 Managing economy	45	C +4
4 Replacing poll tax	42	Lab +24
5 Education	41	Lab +14
6 Law and order	39	C +4
7 Tax	38	C +5
8 Housing	38	Lab +22
9 Defence	19	C +38
10 Europe	19	C +8
11 Northern Ireland	18	C +12

POLLWATCH
by Ivor Crewe

Sampling methods explain variations

The polls again appear to be, in John Major's words, "all over the place". Today's three polls all put Labour ahead. Mori in *The Times* by 3 percentage points, Harris for *News at Ten* by 4 points and ICM in *The Guardian* by 1 point. Yesterday's Harris *Daily Express* poll, conducted over the weekend, put the Conservatives 5 points ahead and an unpublished Audience Selection telephone poll, also done mainly over the weekend, reported a 2-point Conservative lead.

The chance outcome of sampling error? Probably. Harris's apparently contradictory polls are just about consistent with the plus or minus 3-point sampling error that needs to be applied to every standard poll. If the true state of public opinion is that the Conservatives and Labour are on 40 per cent each then a Cons 43, Lab 38 poll immediately followed by a Cons 38, Lab 42 poll are both within the error margin. It is easy to forget that the 3-point margin of error applies to only 19 out of 20 polls: the twentieth will be a "rogue". Yesterday's Harris/*Express* poll may well have been such a dud: it gave the Conservatives their largest lead and greatest support, at 43 per cent, in any poll published this year and was well out of line with recent trends.

But in *The Observer* Robert Waller of Harris offered a possible explanation for discrepancies between polls. Polls carried out entirely in one day (as Mori's was), he argues, normally have to complete their interviewing by early evening in order to produce results for the next day. To fill their quota quickly, interviewers go to busy streets rather than people's homes to find respondents. They thus tend to over-sample men who are unemployed or on short time, and to under-sample the elderly. That results in an over-estimate of Labour's vote at the expense of the Tories'.

That Harris's 4-point Labour lead is based on a two-day poll might be thought to have destroyed Mr Waller's hypothesis. Analysis of all 23 post-budget polls offers some support, however. Seven were undertaken in a single day, the other 16 over two or three days. The Labour vote tends to be 1 to 2 points higher and the Conservative 1 point lower in the single polls than in the multi-day polls. The average Labour lead in the single-day polls is 2.9 points, in the multi-day polls 0.8 points.

Ivor Crewe is professor of government at the University of Essex

Don't miss the biggest business event of the year

IOD ANNUAL CONVENTION

Power, Performance and Ethics

Tuesday 28 April 1992
Royal Albert Hall

Speakers

The Prime Minister
Barbara Mills QC
The Rt. Hon.
Robin Leigh-Pemberton
Sir Allen Sheppard
Dr Carl Hahn
Peter Morgan

Tickets: £120 each including VAT,
lunch and refreshments
IOD non-members welcome

Details from Kate Brackenbury on
071-730 0022

Unionists list their aims as hung parliament speculation mounts



Molyneaux has ruled out a formal coalition

The Ulster Unionist party, at the centre of speculation that it may become involved in supporting the next government, launched its manifesto yesterday, beginning with a long list of requirements on the constitutional question.

The party had nine MPs, all of whom are expected to be re-elected. In any post-election bartering it is expected to act with Ian Paisley's Democratic Unionist party, which has three safe seats.

James Molyneaux, the UUP leader, has ruled out a formal coalition with one of the main parties at Westminster but has indicated that his party has made its objectives known and will decide whether to back a minority government "issue by issue".

The manifesto accords pride of place to Mr Molyneaux's determination that Ulster will benefit from the debate on Scottish devolution and independence. He believes this is Northern Ireland's

The Ulster Unionist party's election manifesto gives pride of place to the constitutional question, Edward Gorman writes

best opportunity to move away from the search for complex power-sharing structures in Belfast and once again to come into line with the rest of the Kingdom.

He believes that the Scottish debate will lead to a measure of limited administrative devolution for all regions of the United Kingdom regardless of the political complexion of the next government. The manifesto warns a future prime minister: "We cannot accept as stable any system of governance which could not equally be applied to any other regional equity within the UK."

Mr Molyneaux said yesterday that this almost Powellite form of integration would prove acceptable to the nationalist SDLP and the government of the republic. "I

would hope that the Irish government would see that there is nothing objectionable about Northern Ireland being governed in the same way as Scotland because both have a separatist minority as Wales does. There should be a way of giving them [the minorities] a place in the sun in the running of their own particular patch while still recognising the integrity of the UK and the sovereignty of Parliament."

Surprisingly low down the list comes the perennial problem of the Anglo-Irish agreement. "Ulster Unionists require the removal of the present discredited Anglo-Irish agreement, which has negated progress towards peace and stability, and its replacement by a wider British-Irish agreement which would take the totality of relationships in these islands into account," the document says.

Improvement of procedures at Westminster for the government of the province, including the end of orders in council and the establishment of a select committee, are also called for.

On security, the document does not mention explicitly the party's

preference for internment, advocated unceasingly by Ken Maginnis, the security spokesman, but says its MPs will "press the next government to define a proper strategy for dismantling the senior command and control structures of paramilitary groupings".

Jobs will also be on the agenda in a province where unemployment averages 14 per cent, as well as measures to alleviate the pressures on the business community caused by bombings.

Mr Molyneaux and his colleagues are playing a low-key game. They know that if they are seen to be asking for too much their chances of being involved after the election will diminish. Some of them are willing to admit that many of the items on their list of requirements may well be unattainable. They also believe, however, that an opportunity to make gains which, in UK terms might seem modest, but to them would

be of great significance could be at hand.

□ Lib Dem objection: Paddy Ashdown yesterday ruled out Liberal Democrat support for a minority Tory government if it depended on Ulster Unionist MPs (Sheila Gunn writes).

In a rare display of anger, the Liberal Democrat leader said he found it impossible to accept that a man such as John Major could contemplate putting the peace of Northern Ireland at risk in exchange for holding on to power.

When questioned, he also dismissed the prospect of sitting around the same table as the Ulster Unionist MPs under a minority Tory government. "I can see no way I could be any part of any government that depended on Ulster Unionist votes," he said. Liberal Democrat MPs in the next parliament would also unquestionably vote against a government that looked to the Unionists to retain power.

TOM KIDD

SNP challenge

Farmers hold key to humiliation of Lang

BY KERRY GILL

MATT Brown sketched out a campaign map of Galloway and Upper Nithsdale showing the strengths and weaknesses of the Tories and the Scottish National Party as if he were General Patton preparing a tank assault. Only Mr Brown might be a little more confident.

Galloway and Upper Nithsdale must be one of the most attractive constituencies in Britain, stretching from the mellow coves by Solway Firth, up through the forest of Glenrothes, over the wild landscape on which Buchan's Richard Hannay was hunted in *The Thirty-Nine Steps*, to the old mining villages of Sanquhar and Kirkconnel.

One could easily believe this was the safest Tory seat in Scotland. But the Scottish Conservatives could suffer their most humiliating defeat here. The nationalists have chosen Mr Brown to fight Ian Lang, Scottish secretary, whom they deride as "Scotland's colonial governor".

Reading the runes in such a diverse constituency, which ranges from the rich Tory heartlands of Stewarton to the

unemployment wastes of Upper Nithsdale, was once fraught with pitfalls. Galloway was held by the nationalists during the late Seventies but fell to Mr Lang in 1979. Five years ago he held on to this largely farming constituency by 3,673 votes in spite of a reinvigorated SNP. Next month those same farmers will hold the key to Mr Lang's future as Scottish secretary and things are not looking good. The augurs predict a nationalist victory.

The periodical *Big Farm Weekly* articulated this month the growing disenchantment of local farmers with the Tories in general and Mr Lang in particular.

Mr Brown, campaigning in the village of Glenluice last night, was confident of victory. According to polls, official and private, the SNP has more than achieved the necessary swing, 4.5 per cent, to oust Mr Lang. Mr Brown, a west coast lawyer, attacked what he called Mr Lang's lack of genuine interest in his constituents.

The Tories point to the number of new small busi-

nesses created in Galloway and Upper Nithsdale, to the recent upgrading of the A75 trunk route to Stranraer and bypasses that will increase trade with Northern Ireland and save Stranraer from further job losses. Ian Macie, the Tory agent, is confident that if the Conservative voters are encouraged to the poll on April 9, Mr Lang will see off the SNP.

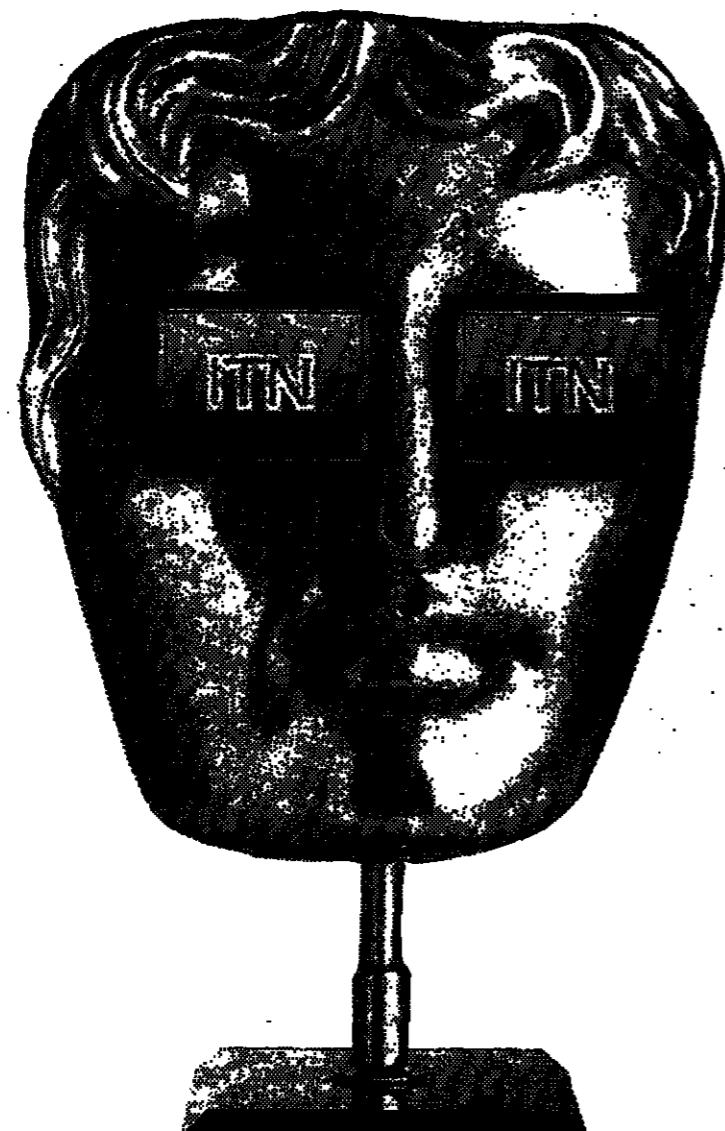
Nobody doubts that it will be a two-horse race. Third place is likely to go to John McKerchar, the Liberal Democrat, who wants a long-term promotion of Galloway. John Dowson, Labour's man, arrived late, having replaced a candidate who dropped out because of pressure of work. Mr Dowson is concentrating on the benefits that Labour could bring to the areas of poor employment such as Upper Nithsdale and Newton Stewart. Unemployment, however, has fallen within the constituency as a whole.

1979 general election results:
I.B. Lang (Con) 16,592; S.F. Norris (SNP) 12,919; J. McKerchar (Lib/D) 6,001; J. Gray (Lab) 5,298; D. Kenny (Ref/D) 230.



Roles reversed? Matt Brown, SNP candidate at Galloway and Upper Nithsdale, gets a kiss from a constituent's dog and perhaps a vote from its owner. Mr Brown is fighting the Scottish secretary Ian Lang to get back a seat that the nationalists lost to the Tories in 1979

'AND THE WINNER IS'



ITN has just picked up a top award. This time, from the British Academy of Film and Television Arts. Following a clean sweep at the Royal Television Society News Awards, and major wins in both the New York and Monte Carlo festivals, the BAFTA award for Best Actuality Coverage was given to ITN for its coverage of the Gulf War. We would like to say a big thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make it all possible.

NOW YOU CAN SEE WHY INDEPENDENT TELEVISION NEWS IS INDISPENSABLE TELEVISION NEWS.

Carlo festivals, the BAFTA award for Best Actuality Coverage was given to ITN for its coverage of the Gulf War. We would like to say a big thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make it all possible.

Major heads north

Flair for the one-liner sharpens campaign act

BY NICHOLAS WOOD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

JOHN Major was sharpening up his act yesterday in his quest for the C2 vote, which supposedly holds the key to the outcome of the election.

He warmed up on the ABs at his morning press conference in London, displaying a hitherto unrecognised talent for the one-liner. Had the government made any significant mistakes over the past five years, one questioner asked. "The politician who didn't make mistakes is never a politician and the politician who admitted them to you wouldn't be a politician," the prime minister replied.

Not bad for the dawn patrol. But there was better to come. Another AB wanted to know if collectively ditching Mrs Thatcher had made for better relations with Jacques Delors. Mr Major instantly summoned up a chorus of praise for his predecessor. "We collectively knew very well how much this country has owed Margaret Thatcher for the last 12 years. When history looks back on the

years she was prime minister, I believe history will look back very kindly. They were the years of very great achievement."

Mr Major then risked another walkabout, this time in a small market town in Cleveland near the North Yorkshire boundary. Tim Devin is banting to hold on to his narrow 774 majority in Stockton South, and to the astonishment of the shoppers in Yarm, the prime minister just happened to drop by to help.

Mr Major's encounter with the public in Bolton last week ended in a disturbance. This time the only skinhead in sight wanted Mr Major's autograph — on his helmet — and the only ugly scenes were among the media banting to keep pace with the prime minister.

But for all the jollity, the C2 vote was still proving elusive. Sean Butler, aged 28, explained that in spite of Mr Major's civility he would not be voting for him. Mr Butler has been working on the flood

defences on the Tees, which surrounds the town, but will be out of his £250-a-week job on Friday.

His colleague, David Bradshaw, aged 30, also faced losing his job, but his comments suggested that Mr Major's warning in Sheffield the previous night about the spectre of unremitted union power under a Kinnock government was hitting home. Mr Bradshaw pledged his support for the Tories, saying: "Kinnock's going back to the old ways. He's bringing back stagecoaches."

A beaming Mr Major clearly enjoyed his stroll in the spring sunshine of Yarm with its quaint testostops, cobble stones and ancient town hall. "It's glorious, isn't it? What a place to contest in the election." The new flair for the one-liner was never too far from the surface. As office workers crowded at their windows, one young woman invited Mr Major up for a cup of coffee. "That's the best offer I've had in a long time," he said.

Doubters shunted into sidings

MARGARET Thatcher rode serenely down half a mile of privatised railway yesterday on the footplate of a steam engine. As journalists hunted for political metaphors near the station platform where Trevor Howard and Celia Johnson held their *Brief Encounter*, the manager of the Steam Town Railway Centre at Carnforth, Lancashire, assured them there were no buffers to hit, no possibility of running out of steam and no end of the line.

"But you came in backwards, Mrs Thatcher — does that mean you are not for turning?" one reporter enquired as the former prime minister returned to its platform. "What a good idea, what a good thought."

Mrs Thatcher was campaigning in support of Mark

Lennox-Boyd, Tory candidate for Morecambe and Lunesdale, and she waxed lyrical about steam engines. "My generation understands the steam engine and the power of the thing and the experience of an express when it goes through a station without stopping," she enthused. Many were made in her home town of Grantham, and she recalled watching them being built.

Was she a driver? Yes, but not of trains. Some would say you are driving the campaign? "I would not say I am driving, I am helping and I hope very effectively." Mrs Thatcher replied. Why should people in Carnforth vote Tory? a local reporter flung in, and it was hard to tell whether steam was rising from Mrs Thatcher or the Stanier 8F 4-6-0 locomotive that was sizzling behind her. Why? Because of everything the government had done for Britain in raising the standards of living of all the people, Mrs Thatcher said.

Labour, she added, had an abysmal record. "People got into decline and they got used to decline and the trade unions ran the country with terrible strikes. That was their record in practice and that is how you should judge their words now. We released the enterprise of these remarkable people. I hope the message gets home."

Asked by reporters about Scottish independence, Mrs Thatcher said: "It's very, very easy to talk about these things, but, when you actually come to consider it, you don't want to destroy the work of centuries in a moment."

In the Tayside market town of Blairgowrie, where Mrs Thatcher had a meeting with Tory workers, several hundred onlookers gave her a rousing cheer.

Scottish Tories

Thatcher gets more daffodils

BY PAUL WILKINSON

SCOTLAND'S beleaguered Tories took a calculated risk yesterday and invited Margaret Thatcher on a whistle-stop tour of three Conservative marginal seats.

Mrs Thatcher, who, while prime minister, was probably the member of the Tory leadership most disliked by Scots, opened her visit by saying that she had come north "because I care".

There were no walkabouts during her nine-hour tour of the seats of Edinburgh West, Tayside North and Stirling. There were, however, daffodils. Not over her head, as happened when she met the public in Stockport on Monday, but in a posy from a party worker in Edinburgh, where the tour began.

"Mrs Thatcher's popularity has changed in Scotland since she went from power," said Brian Townsend, assistant to Bill Walker, who is defending a 5,000 majority in Tayside North against a strong Scottish National Party candidate. "Attitudes have softened and people are beginning to understand what she was talking about. Anyway, it's a great boost for party morale to see her here."

Mrs Thatcher began with a lunch given in Edinburgh by Lord James Douglas-Hamilton, defending a 1,234 majority in Edinburgh West. The hotel chosen was away from public gaze, on a main road leading to the Forth Bridge. The police kept the few sightseers well away, and it was only campaign workers who raised a straggling cheer as Mrs Thatcher's motorcade drew up.

Asked by reporters about Scottish independence, Mrs Thatcher said: "It's very, very easy to talk about these things, but, when you actually come to consider it, you don't want to destroy the work of centuries in a moment."

In the Tayside market town of Blairgowrie, where Mrs Thatcher had a meeting with Tory workers, several hundred onlookers gave her a rousing cheer.

Party press conferences

'Missing' Kaufman returns to the hustings limelight

By ROBIN OAKLEY, POLITICAL EDITOR

PARTIES are sensitive things at election times. Yesterday, *The Times* drew attention to the mysterious absence of Gerald Kaufman, the shadow foreign secretary, from Labour platforms. But when the press trooped in for Labour's morning press conference on training and employment and behind them was Mr Kaufman, blinking in the unexpected limelight and primed up with some instantly forgettable statistics on the training scene in Spain and Portugal. We have saved the Tories, firm in their belief that Mr Kaufman nuzzles voters their way every time his exhorting tongue is

loosed upon them, are secretly praying for a good foreign affairs crisis, not only to raise Mr Kaufman's profile but also to do the same for Douglas Hurd, whose magisterial authority is seen as a potent vote-winner. Yesterday, they wheeled him on anyway, making foreign affairs their theme of the day.

Whether it was altogether wise, given the present state of the Tory campaign, to pose Mr Major in front of a back wall slogan ending "...in troubled world" Saatchi and Saatchi's well paid protestants might care to contemplate. But Mr Hurd and Mr Major strutted their stuff, reminding us all of the battles they had fought through the Kuwaiti desert and across the dinner tables of Maastricht.

Mr Hurd said: "We have won respect for our coherence, consistency and steadfastness. The world is in flux, uncertain and dangerous. The international agenda has rarely been busier. Our interests are at stake. We need a pilot with experience and weight to chart our course at this critical time."

Labour, he said, was led by people who had based their political rise on antipathy to Tory. But having once seen nothing right with the Community, they now saw nothing wrong. "They seem to have moved from total opposition to total subservience."

At the Liberal Democrat press conference Paddy Ashdown once again highlighted education. Mr Ashdown said "anyone who says they will never raise taxes is either a fool or a fiddler". Once again he pledged to raise taxes to pay for more education. There are advantages in playing the high moral line when nobody believes you will be in a position to add to their tax bills.

He is, however, picking up one Kinnockian habit. His reply to a question whether he was after the Euro-sceptic vote took three minutes twenty seconds.

Mr Major challenged Mr Kinnock over credit controls, saying that Labour was "reverting to type" by proposing them. "It is the old answer: form a queue, wait, let the government decide what you can have, when you can have it and how much you can have. We need a clear and concise statement of what it means and who it will affect."

Questioned about stories that the Conservatives would seek to form a coalition with Ulster Unionists if the election produced a hung parliament, the Lib Dem leader said: "I can see no way that I would be part of a government that depends on Ulster Unionist votes." That might, of course, be one reason why the Tories were trying, the Northern Ireland tack.

D Owen, who is not standing for re-election in his Plymouth Devonport constituency, was addressing MEPs from throughout eastern and western Europe at the Future of Europe annual conference. He told them that he was among the third of voters who had yet to decide which way to vote.

He repeated his opposition to a federal Europe but accepted that "a single monetary policy might make sense" with a wholly independent bank. He pressed for an immediate enlargement, incorporating Poland, Hungary and Czechoslovakia.

Ernest Peter Shore, a former Labour cabinet minister, told a French delegate who asked what changes in British attitudes to the EC could be expected from a Labour government: "Labour is being just as collaborationist with the EC in its most extravagant ambitions as the Conservative and Liberal Democrat parties."

M Shore, a long-standing opponent of a federal Europe, called for the Community to exert a "firm promise" of membership to eastern European states on condition that they retain democracy.

He said that most people in Europe did not want a federal Europe. Pressure for federalism had come from the reunification of Germany.

Child's support: Heath and Natasha Kaprova

Tired arty-political show staggers on its boring way

THE characters in a stage play grown stale through too many previous Tim Renton, the arts minister, and the pretenders who covet his throne offered few novel interpretations to their play scripts when they met yesterday to open a debate on the post-election future of the arts. It was certainly not a dialogue that a drama tutor would have bothered nurturing.

Poably the most eloquent but unconventional (an arty, critic's word for whacky) contribution came from Stephen Games, an arts journalist turned arts spokesman for the Green party. He at least managed to introduce the most foreign names and phrases in his pitch to the small audience, gathered together at Queen Elizabeth Hall, London, by the National Campaign for the Arts.

He also told them to remember that great art has often blossomed in the oddest circumstances, often in the middle of anguish, catastrophe and war, although he was quick to

Joe Joseph reviews, rather unfavourably, an unscripted but over-rehearsed performance by a stale quartet of would-be arts ministers

reassure the audience: "This does not mean that a Green government would want to launch a war to get a Guernica or a Siegfried Sassoon out of it."

Mr Games added that he and his colleagues "want to see critically interactive audiences", which sounds faintly painful, and he explained that healthy arts are produced by healthy societies, such as those that flourished in ancient Greece, although he did not make clear in exactly which sense ancient Greece might be considered healthy.

Well, that at least raised a guffaw cum-sigh from Mark Bonham Carter, who always speaks as though he is delivering the headmaster's speech on Parents' Day. Lord Bonham-Carter, the Liberal Democrats' arts man, told the meeting that "the arts could

Refuge offered by minority channels

TV viewers risk poll coverage overdose

Last night at about 11.30pm, the sated electorate might have thought it was safe to turn from the wearying debate about which party wants more of our tax money to the calm and cultured shores of *The Late Show* on BBC2.

Alas, this election is everywhere. Just in case the gap between the end of *Newsnight* on the same channel and the start of *Midnight Special* on Channel 4 proved, at ten minutes, to be unbearably long, *The Late Show* decided to give us a fix: a tri-party debate on arts policy after the election.

That was but the latest example of programmers finding ways to demonstrate their political virility, although *The Late Show* was mercifully devoid of opinion polls and Peter Snow graphics.

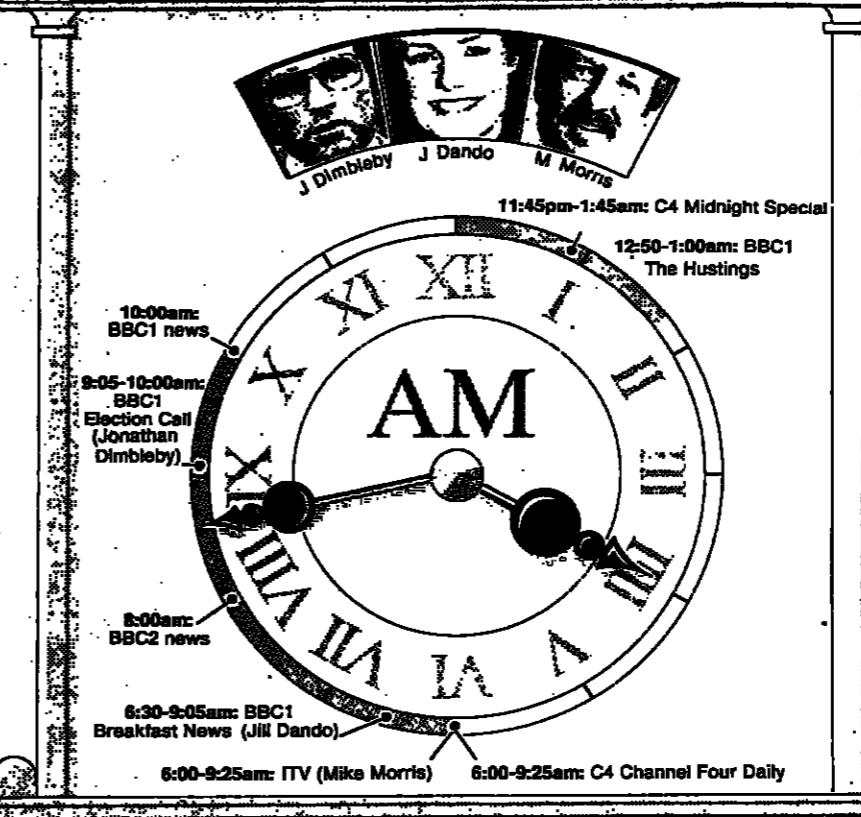
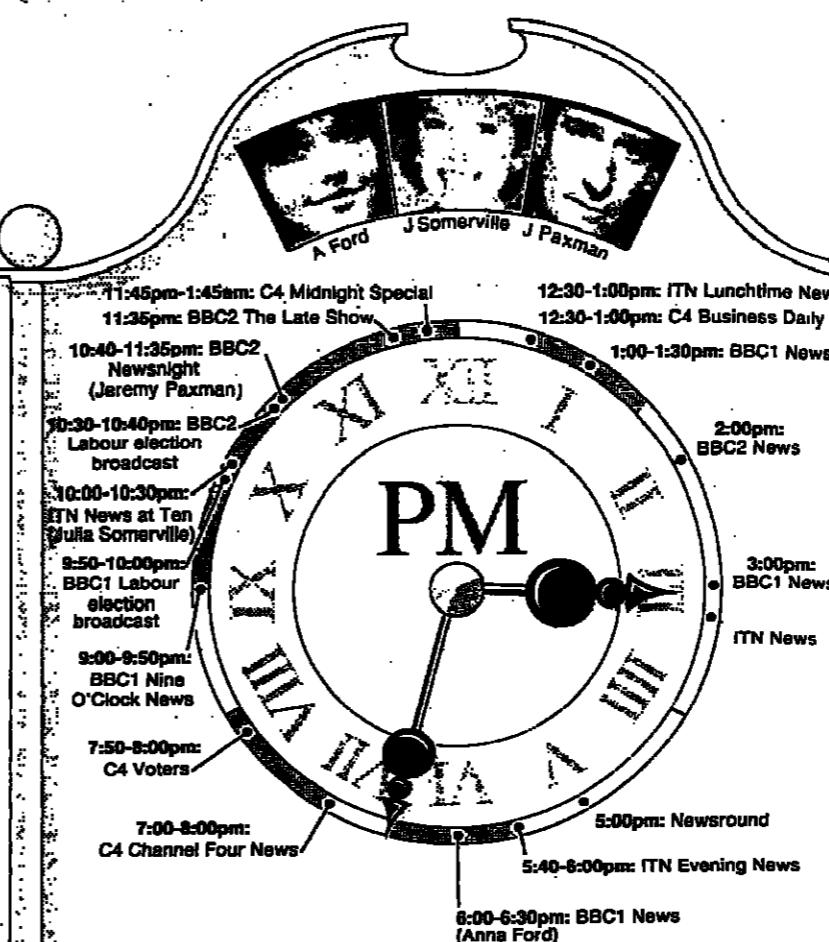
During election campaigns, the television set becomes an enemy that many people claim to be avoiding at all costs. News bulletins are assumed to be about nothing but the election, although in truth the bulletins have merely been stretched.

Television has brought on itself the preception that it is obsessed with the election by taking the decision to concentrate so much of its coverage almost exclusively on its main channels, BBC1 and ITV. Both channels could mount a strong case for shunning most of the election on to BBC2 and Channel 4, the contest being the political equivalent of football's World Cup. One match on the main channel may be justifiable, but a whole tournament surely needs to be spread around the dial so as not to alienate the medium's main audience.

Yet the minority channels have instead become a refuge for the election-weary, especially in peak hours, and there is tentative evidence that BBC2 and Channel 4 have "benefited by gaining bigger audiences."

BBC1's main problem is what the election coverage may be doing to its final peak-time slot of the evening, usually at 9.30. This has been pushed back by nearly half an hour because *The Nine O'Clock News* now runs to 50 minutes, plus time for the weather forecast and regional bulletins.

Last night that was a less significant problem than on some other nights, especially Mondays when *Panorama*



follows the news. But a glance at the chart shows that between 6am yesterday and 7pm last night there was only one hour that was devoid of election material.

The avoidance of politicians after 9pm is not as hard as it appears, with three of the four channels election-free until 10pm, but the hour is dominated by the BBC1 news and there is no use switching to ITV

after that (*News at Ten* is looming). Channel 4, the normal refuge for besieged minorities, is surprisingly active on the election, although its coverage comes in long chunks, notably early morning and late at night.

Channel Four Daily runs for nearly three hours, the 7pm news is an hour and *Midnight Special*, Vinten Hanna's insomniac

election forum, lasts two hours. Based on the time between 6am yesterday and the early hours of this morning, the four terrestrial channels had 19 hours 50 minutes of election-contaminated broadcasting.

Avoidance was hardest on BBC1 (345 minutes), least hard on BBC2 (85 minutes). But easy it wasn't.

Soldiers destroy lens 'bomb'

A suspicious package blown up by army bomb disposal experts near a hotel Margaret Thatcher was due to visit on a campaign trip turned out to be a camera lens. The package was found near the Barnton Thistle hotel in Edinburgh about 30 minutes before she arrived.

The telephone lens inside had been left in the hotel foyer by a courier.

£10,000 placed on Tories

A man from Hong Kong has staked £10,000 on the Conservatives being the largest single party and winning the election with a clear overall majority. Bookmakers William Hill said that it was the largest bet it had taken on the election and that the man stood to win £21,000 if both forecasts came off. Meanwhile, it has cut the odds on the Conservatives to win with a clear overall majority from 5-2 to 9-4 and makes the Tories 5-6 joint favourites with Labour to become the largest single party.

Tribunal appeal

Pat Phillips, the former agent who left her job at Winchester Conservative Association this month, is taking the local party to an industrial tribunal alleging constructive dismissal. She has been in dispute with the association after an article by John Browne, the de-selected member, appeared in an official leaflet.

Sutch confusion

Screaming Lord Sutch, leader of the Official Monster Raving Loony Alliance party, is fighting Paddy Ashdown's seat of Yeovil. He is also standing against John Major in Huntingdon. His nomination at Yeovil adds to a confusing choice for voters as contenders also include the Monster Raving Green Giant party represented by Patrick Ashdown.

Party 'flawed'

The former MP Michael Meadowcroft, leader of the rebel Liberal party which would not accept merger with the SDP, said yesterday that Liberal Democrats were virtually indistinguishable from Labour or the Tories. Mr Meadowcroft, candidate at Leeds West, said that Paddy Ashdown's party "remains fatally flawed in principle and in practice".

Czech mates

Thirty members of Czechoslovakia's Green party are in Britain helping their counterparts in the election. They are canvassing and attending press conferences. There are elections in the former communist bloc country later this year.

INVITATION

1st INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE EXHIBITION

9 - 10 - 11 - 12 JULY

1992

FINOR

VICE ACROPOLIS

SEA-SUN-SKI
EXPERTS CLAIM PROPERTY AS BEING
THE BEST INVESTMENT FOR THE 90'S

SPECIAL HOTEL RATES
BOOK NOW - TO OBTAIN YOUR FREE PASS
PLEASE CONTACT JOHN STUART BLOOR
TEL 071/4860327

New leader hails end of Albania's isolation in Europe



SALI BERISHA, Albania's new leader, is rich in the sort of contradictions in which the country excels: a heart surgeon in a society notorious for its primitive health care, a pro-market democrat who was a long-time Communist party member, a shy intellectual turned rousing demagogue.

With his Democratic party's sweeping victory in Sunday's elections, Albania has shaken off the legacy of isolationist communism. Dr Berisha is determined that Albania will perceive his triumph as the chance for a new start and that Europe will finally take notice of him and his country.

Turning to the European dignitaries gathered beside him at his celebration rally yesterday he inclined his head graciously. "Hello Europe," he said. "I hope we find you

The message from the top is one of self-reliance to build recovery and investment rather than handouts, Anne McElvoy writes from Tirana

well." There is a refreshing dignity about this man in a country whose traditional pride is injured by living on European Community handouts. His message is that Albania does not want a future of dependency on aid but investment to let it build its own recovery.

His success is a tribute to having bridged the gap between voters in the town and country. He is a product of both. Born in the impoverished rural region of Tropoje in the far north of the country, he studied medicine at Tirana University, performed brilliantly and specialised in car-

diology. Albania, under its brutal dictator Enver Hoxha, was a bewildering mixture of feudal backwardness and boastful communist advancement. It practised heart operations and produced nuclear physicists and water engineers of international standing while its people remained malnourished and its infrastructure underdeveloped.

The vainglorious policy did, however, produce a small class of highly educated intellectuals — a pool out of which the opposition began to form in 1990. Dr Berisha speaks fluent French and English, and was allowed the

rare privilege of leaving the country to learn new operating techniques in France in the late 1980s.

Like almost all Albanians in senior positions, he was an active party member and even performed operations on the old elite. But he seems to have kept his hands clean of any of the regime's master business while not endangering his own future by active dissent.

He sought fulfilment instead in academic endeavour and awoke to the possibility of change only in early 1990, inspired by the toppling of other regimes in the east. He wrote a critical article for the writers' newspaper about the lack of progress in the country and defended it when called in for a lecture by President Alija.

When Tirana's students took to the streets to demon-

strate for pluralism in December 1990, Dr Berisha and his ally, Gramoz Pashko, joined them. The movement swelled quickly. President Alija gave way and the Democratic party was formed.

Dr Berisha was its leader and carefully exploited his growing popularity. He is still equally at ease addressing disaffected city dwellers, frustrated and ashamed by their country's backwardness, or peasants in remote areas, who do not comprehend the political process and are fearful of change.

In a coalition formed in June 1991 after the general strike he gained valuable experience of government and grew in self-confidence. He also developed a ruthless streak, ousting his friend, Mr Pashko, from the barricades because he considered the economist's reform pro-

gramme too complicated to be a vote-puller.

He expertly timed his party's exit from the coalition government, quitting at the height of the civil unrest last December and thus ensuring that fresh elections would be held in a climate of disillusion and uncertainty and that the electorate would be ready for a change. Since then he has pounded the campaign trail — and in Albania it is rockier than most — relentlessly. His voice is hoarse from over-use but characteristically he does not spare it. In his victory speeches he still lays down the law with a force to which authority-hungry Albania responds.

There is an undeniable whiff of the personality cult about Dr Berisha. When his car entered Tirana's main square yesterday the crowd parted obediently leaving a

wide corridor to let him pass as they had once done for the late dictator Hoxha and Kirov.

Albania's intellectuals fear that the extent of the Democrats' triumph — they have 70 per cent, the Socialists only 22 per cent of the vote though counting is still incomplete — may hinder the development of true democracy with the sway of one group of people simply being replaced by another.

Politics in Albania is an intensely personal business, not surprisingly in a country whose capital has only 300,000 inhabitants. The country's institutions will now be purged of the old by network and the resultant corruption from communist days. It will be a more tricky task, however, to ensure that new privileges do not replace the old ones.

Europe security grouping widened

French alarm Nato by pressing for new defence alliance

FROM OLLI KIVINEN IN HELSINKI AND GEORGE BROCK IN BRUSSELS

THE Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe began in Helsinki yesterday with the admission of three more members: Georgia, Croatia and Slovenia. The opening session had before it a French memorandum calling for a sweeping revision of the continent's defence and security, including a proposal designed to marginalise America's role in Europe.

European foreign ministers, meeting for the first time in the city where the original Helsinki Accords were signed in 1975, decided to admit the three new members, bringing the total number of conference signatories to 51. They also signed the so-called open skies agreement, which allows former adversaries in the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation and the defunct Warsaw Pact, as well as European neutral countries, to conduct aerial surveillance over each other's territory to discover possible cheating in arms-control agreements.

The treaty, which was negotiated in Vienna, is considered to be a significant confidence-building measure as it allows low flights and use of most modern equipment to determine exact compliance. Paavo Vayrynen, the Finnish foreign minister who opened the foreign ministers' meeting, described the treaty as "without equal in the area of verification and confidence building". The foreign ministers of Russia, Ukraine and Belarus signed the pact in place of the former Soviet Union. Georgia also began its activity in the organisation by signing the treaty.

The French memorandum, circulated to European capitals on the eve of the meeting, outlines ways in which it might develop. The most controversial suggestion is that the security conference might turn itself into a defence treaty organisation, and it has rung alarm bells in several Nato capitals. President Mitterrand and Roland Dumas, his foreign minister, in pursuit of France's ceaseless post-war quest to ease Europe away from America's military and political shadow, are quietly campaigning to turn the

grouping into a dominant body dealing with security and peace-keeping between the Atlantic and the Urals. The new French memorandum intensifies a largely secret battle over the control of Europe's future security.

According to French thinking, Nato would remain as a nuclear alliance of last resort but otherwise irrelevant to the ethnic and frontier disputes which are bubbling all over the territory of what used to be the Soviet empire. Hans van den Broek, the Dutch foreign minister, supported by Britain and by some in the American administration, argues that Nato troops could perform "military observer" or peace-keeping missions on the security conference's behalf in trouble-spots. At present, the body has no means of enforcing its rulings on human rights or ethnic issues.

President Mitterrand has only made one fleeting public reference to a new European

Vayrynen: a treaty that will build confidence

Nato by creating an alternative alliance. "The memo does not say 'move over Nato' explicitly, but you can smell it between every line," one Nato diplomat said.

France and Germany, developing plans for a 25,000-member European defence force which may be joined by Spain and Belgium, are suggesting that the conference's cumbersome decision-making should be streamlined. Its decisions now require the assent of all members. Germany has floated the idea that a small "security council" along United Nations lines should deal with sensitive and fast-moving disputes. France backs the idea of the security conference making decisions by majority vote.

Yesterday the foreign ministers in Helsinki spent the morning looking at mediation attempts in Nagorno-Karabakh and the need to polish the image of the organisation battered during the Croatian war. Last night Armenia and Azerbaijan were reported to have agreed that a peace conference on their dispute over Nagorno-Karabakh should be held in Minsk.

The admission of new members was made possible by Yugoslavia's new flexibility. Earlier Belgrade had prevented the admission of Croatia and Slovenia and paralysed the security conference in the Yugoslav civil war. The leader of Yugoslavia's delegation, Vladimir Pavicevic, said that his country had wanted to postpone their admission but gave up because of pressure from other participants.

The fourth follow-up meeting will last three months. After two days of formal statements by foreign ministers, the 51 members will try to find new structures for the Helsinki process in the post-cold war era, although many experienced diplomats are weary of the new members with their multiple problems. The conference will end with a summit meeting in Helsinki in July.

Leading article, page 13



Mountain vigil: rescue workers recovering a body from the wreckage of a Sudan Airways Boeing 707 cargo plane that crashed into the fog-shrouded Mount Imitos near

Athens airport yesterday. All seven crew were killed. The aircraft was carrying 40 tonnes of medicines and medical equipment and 33 tonnes of clothing from Amsterdam

to Sudan. It crashed shortly before landing to take on fuel. By late yesterday, the rescuers had identified five of seven mutilated and charred bodies. During the plane's

approach to the airport the pilot contacted the control tower at 7.02am to say that he was having trouble and his instruments had failed. (AFP)

Istanbul gunmen ambush state bus

FROM ANDREW FINKEL IN ISTANBUL

GUNMEN hiding in a graveyard attacked a bus as it drove through Istanbul yesterday morning. Two people were killed and seven others were wounded in the bus, which was apparently taking employees of MIT, the Turkish state intelligence organisation, to work.

An armed faction of the radical Dev Sol group claimed responsibility for the assault. "The hand which tries to crush the Kurds will be broken," a caller told a newspaper in reference to the violence which continued sporadically yesterday in the Kurdish provinces of southeast Turkey after Turkish troops ringed the town of Sirmak with tanks.

Two radical Kurd MPs, Leyla Zana and Haip Dicle, of the Peoples' Labour party, are now on hunger strike in protest against what they describe as the "state massacre" in the region. Mehdi

Zana, Mrs Zana's husband and a popular former mayor of Diyarbakir who served 11 years in prison, was reportedly rearrested yesterday for allegedly giving support to the Kurdish Workers' party.

Yesterday's daylight raid, in which five assailants emerged from behind a cemetery wall some 50 yards from the bus, is typical of the bravura tactics of Dev Sol. Police later freed a taxi driver who was bound hand and foot in the boot of his car, which the gunman used in their escape.

Although Dev Sol attacks are a rarity compared to the heyday of urban violence in Turkey in the 1970s, the group appeared to revive at the beginning of 1990 when it carried out several acts of urban terror in a bid, it was believed, to discourage Turkish support for the allied cause in the Gulf war.

London protest, page 3

East teaches west a lesson in industry

FROM IAN MURRAY IN BERLIN

BRIAN Hay, a director of BICC, the British cable manufacturer, is one of the small band of British businessmen to have ventured into the economic wilderness of eastern Germany. His commutes to Berlin from Cheshire each week to oversee the transformation of the former East Germany's cable-making Kombinat into an industrial complex capable of competing for world markets.

He finds the task made easier by the fact that Ossi (west Germans) have generally been rude about Ossis (east Germans) since unification. Fed up with being called lazy and stupid, Ossi workers want to prove they are at least as good as Westies, whom they regard as self-satisfied and arrogant. The result is they are motivated to out-produce west German factories, even though they earn only 70 per cent of western wages.

Treuhand, the government

agency set up to privatise east German industry, is finding that Ossi workers are putting pressure on the economy to improve. Daimler-Benz has reportedly set up last year in Ludwigsfelde, south of Berlin, is already the most efficient of any company runs worldwide.

With one in three Ossis out of work, those employed are showing unexpected management flair and determination to save their companies from closure. Shipyard workers in Mecklenburg, western Pomerania, have just forced the state's prime minister to resign because he failed to give them adequate support.

In the town of Brandenburg, the women at the Branka yarn mills have chosen a dynamic management from among their own number, cut the workforce from 750 to 340, and gone in search of new markets from Iran to America. They have been angered because west German companies, happy to import their wool when it was subsidised under communism, now refuse to pay the market price they must charge to survive.

But the Ossi textile industry has little hope of competing with cheap-labour mills in Turkey and South-East Asia. Treuhand is searching vainly for someone to buy Branka and save its determined women from the dole queue. Even companies with potential like Kabelwerk Oberpreis, just taken over by BICC, have had to accept large-scale layoffs as the price of survival. The rescue plan drawn up by Mr Hay involved cutting the workforce from 9,000 to 2,200.

● Economic forecast: Peter Walker, the former Welsh secretary, said in Bonn that eastern Germany would soon be the area of greatest economic expansion in the European Community, but that Britain was failing to take advantage of the fact.

Mr Walker, who succeeded in attracting massive Japanese investment to Wales, has been called in by the German government to attract British investment to the depressed eastern Länder. (Reuters)

Ceasefire shattered in Croatia

FROM BERNARD COOPER IN BELGRADE

Nine people were killed in fighting in Croatia and Bosnia-Herzegovina as ceasefire violations were reported by both Croatia and Serbia. (Our Foreign Staff writer). Nineteen people died since last Sunday.

United Nations officers were forced to spend several hours in shelters as the town of Bel Manastir was shelled by Croatian forces.

Honecker claim

Bonn: Erich Honecker, the former East German leader who has taken refuge in Chilean embassy in Moscow, has said that he is willing to return to Berlin to face trial for manslaughter if he is properly charged, a special Chilean envoy said here.

Swiss riot

Winterthur: A Swiss demonstration by environmentalists against General Norbert Schwarzkopf, the US commander of allied forces in the Gulf war, turned into rioting after leftists tried to prevent guests from hearing the general speak at a meeting. (AFP)

Revenue lost

Bon: The German government will lose DM2 billion (£700 million) in revenue this year because the February 29 starting date for a new tide tax was omitted from legislation. Collection cannot be enforced until the beginning of next year.

Small victory

Grenoble: A French court annulled a ban against dwarf-throwing after Manuel Wackenheim, aged 25, appealed that it deprived him of a livelihood. The government claimed the sport of throwing dwarfs across a bar room was degrading. (Reuters)

Fatal evidence

Bon: Erich Scharf, aged 79, a former member of the SS, dropped dead in a Stuttgart court as he began giving evidence at the trial of Josef Schwammberger, the Nazi labour camp and ghetto commander who is accused of killing 45 Jews.

Hotdogs and hookers sour home of dolce vita

PLANS to close the Caffe Doney, one of the few remaining elegant bars on the Via Veneto, and the nearby Hotel Eden with its stupendous views over Rome, have alarmed Romans who fear the street that once symbolised the dolce vita could become squalid and sordid.

Many other landmarks from the decadent era of the 1950s and 1960s captured on celluloid by Federico Fellini and Anita Ekberg have disappeared already. Last year the smart Bar Carpano on the Via Veneto closed "for restructuring" and a few yards away a bank offering tourists exchange facilities has sprung up where the fashionable Caffe Rosati once stood.

In January Mondadori, the last of four bookshops that used to cater for intellectuals browsing in the Via Veneto wound up business because the proprietors could not afford a rent increase.

Antonio Scibona, the chief barman at Harry's

Sky-high hotel prices, all-night traffic and closure of elegant bars have driven the in-crowd out of a famous street, John Phillips writes from Rome

Bar, cannot confirm newspaper reports that the days of his august establishment are numbered after a recent management change. But Signor Scibona, who has worked at the Roman Harry's since it opened in 1961, is leaving to run his own bar in the Piazza Navona.

"Via Veneto has changed immeasurably," he said. "The beautiful people don't come here to stroll at night anymore. The number of tourists is much fewer."

A pressure group, the Friends of the Via Veneto, have asked Franco Carraro, the mayor of Rome, to intervene with Caffe Harry's, the owners of Doney, to prevent the imminent closure of the cafe and its sedate reading rooms. Its 54 employees have been told they face early retire-



war. Panorama magazine suggested that the street be renamed "Streetwalk Veneto" because of the growing number of hookers and tranvestite prostitutes lurking on its pavements at night. "Addio Via Veneto," the magazine said. "The quiet seems to be definitive."

Signor Scibona at Harry's blames sky high prices in

Via Veneto area hotels and the failure of the city authorities to prevent nightly traffic jams for part of the decline. "People don't want to pay 500,000 lire (£233) or 600,000 lire a night to sleep badly."

The local authorities experimented in the 1980s with closing the Via Veneto to traffic from 9pm to 2am, luring many people back to

the pavement cafes in sight of the ancient city wall. But the experiment was halted after two years.

Inevitably the first fast food restaurant — referred to disparagingly by Signor Scibona as "that place across the street" — has opened on the Via Veneto decorated with lurid photographs of hamburgers and hotdogs.

Nuclear accident evokes memories of Chernobyl and poses dilemma for states over vital energy supplies

Reactor branded as unsafe before leak

Foreign experts have been seriously concerned by conditions at the Leningradskaya nuclear power station, Nigel Hawkes, Science Editor, writes

THE Leningradskaya nuclear power station where yesterday's incident took place is old, badly designed and run by an increasingly demoralised staff. Foreign experts who have visited it have been seriously concerned by conditions at the plant, the same type as the one which blew up at Chernobyl six years ago.

Last year Leningradskaya was one of two Russian plants ordered to reduce output because they did not meet international safety standards. Swedish specialists who visited the plant said that it should be shut down immediately because of its poor condition and inadequate fire protection system.

German experts were alarmed when their geiger counters recorded levels of radioactivity around the plant 400 times higher than normal, said to be caused by badly designed waste storage facilities. Other visitors report seeing a dozen or so wisps of radioactive steam rising from under the cover of the reactor, apparently a result of inadequate sealing between the reactor vessel and its 200-ton lid.

"That's the usual story these days," the plant's director, Anatoli Eperin, told *Business Week* magazine this month. "The seals we're getting now are pretty poor quality."

Yesterday's incident appears to have involved damage to at least one of the 1,600 fuel channels that run vertically through the reactor's graphite core. The immediate cause was probably a loss of coolant to one of the pressurised tubes containing the fuel elements. Deprived of coolant, the fuel would have overheated, bursting the fuel can and releasing the most volatile of the radioactive fission products, krypton-85 and iodine-131.

These isotopes then reached the reactor hall, apparently through the deficient seals in the lid. Levels of radioactive iodine in the reactor hall were ten times normal, according to Russian reports. The fact that no other isotopes, such as caesium, were detected suggested that fuel temperatures did not greatly exceed normal levels, according to John Gittus of British Nuclear Forum, who has twice visited the plant.

From the reactor hall the gases escaped into the environment through normal ventilation ducts. Like many Russian reactors, the Leningradskaya unit three lacks secondary containment

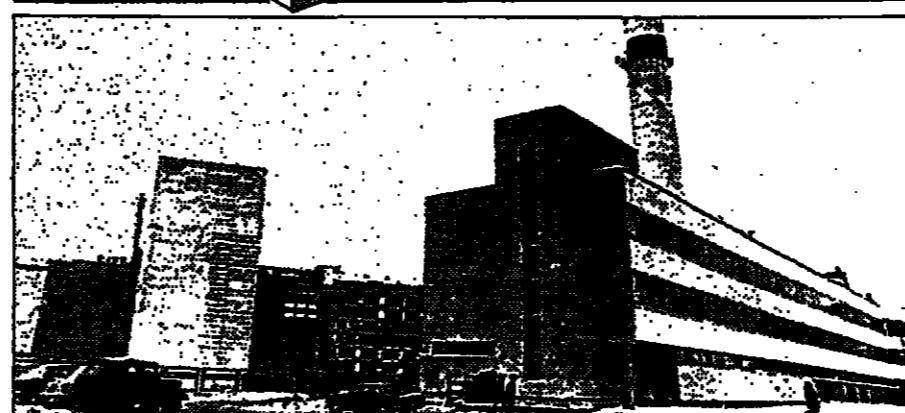
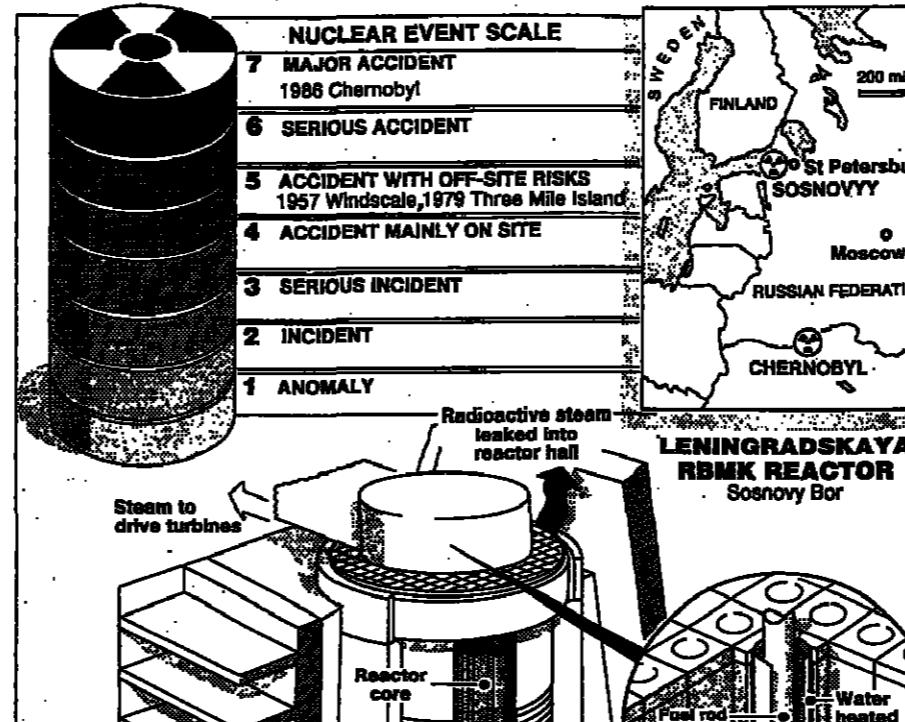
Committee for the Supervision of Nuclear and Radiation Safety recognises the reactor's deficiencies but is powerless to act because no alternative sources of electricity exist to replace the RBMKs. The committee has already lost some of its best inspectors, tempted by higher salaries in the private sector.

Western nuclear companies consulted about the possibility of making the RBMKs safe say that it would be too expensive. Adolf Hutt, chairman of the energy division of Siemens, says: "Because of their design flaws, it is economically not feasible to backfit RBMK reactors." The Russians could not afford to pay, and nobody else is likely to produce the billions of dollars needed.

Dr Gittus, however, is more optimistic. Together with experts from other countries he is hoping to organise an international task force to visit the RBMK reactors and see what could be done to make them safer.

"For £30-40 million we could do quite a lot," he said, "but the first thing is to get £4.5 million of European Community money to investigate the problem and decide what needs to be done."

Letters, page 13
Nuclear accident, page 1



Rogue reactors: the Leningradskaya nuclear power station, where radioactive gases leaked yesterday. Experts are divided on whether such reactors can be made safe

East struggles with the problems of power and pollution



ANYONE who has spluttered and coughed their way around the grimy towns of northern Bohemia will understand the policy dilemma confronting Central Europe: to reduce air pollution, many governments are being forced to accept the risks of nuclear power generated by ancient, over-stretched power stations as flawed as Chernobyl's.

Western governments, notably those of Austria, Germany and Sweden, the three countries most geographically vulnerable to fallout from the East, are nervous, but have yet to untangle one of the most complex development issues of the day. Austria, for example, has decided to be nuclear-free. But it will draw power from Ukraine, some of it almost certainly from nuclear generators.

Europe's dilemma is that rich Western countries want to get rid of nuclear power, but poorer Eastern nations are dependent on it, Roger Boyes writes

For even prosperous countries to shun themselves free of some measure of dependency on nuclear energy produced in out-dated and potentially dangerous power stations is difficult. Klaus Topfer, the German environment minister, shut down East Germany's Greifswald station soon after unification. Now he proposes similar action for Kozloduy in Bulgaria, perhaps Europe's most accident-prone atomic power station. But completely to shut it down would lead to a drastic energy shortfall.

Czechoslovakia is also condemned to stay nuclear. Atomic power accounts for 27 per cent of total electricity generated, and there are plans to expand the nuclear role to 40 per cent.

The fact is that the risks of nuclear power are played down by the less prosperous states of the East, and played up by the wealthier societies of the West. Some form of joint European nuclear strategy needs to be devised. There has to be consensus on what kind of power station can be phased out and how quickly.

and which can be modernised with Western help. The technology to convert atomic reactors to a combined-cycle station powered by natural gas and coal exists, but it has not been tried successfully in the East and the costs are very high.

How Ukraine, a leading energy exporter, could afford the process of conversion is difficult to see. In 1991 Ukraine exported 16 billion kilowatt-hours of electricity to Eastern Europe, a quarter of which is produced in nuclear power stations.

One Czechoslovak project may point the way for increasing nuclear safety. The Mochovce power station has contracted to sell electricity to a Bavarian utility company in return for instrumentation and control systems.

But these are partial solutions and are not enough to convince East Europeans that the time has come for a nuclear shutdown. New information from the Chernobyl area about the scope of radiation and the long-term health effects is not reassuring.

Nor is the organisational collapse of the Soviet Union. The central authorities in Moscow reacted slowly to the Chernobyl accident, but with some semblance of order. No big imaginative leap is needed to picture the scene if there were another accident tomorrow: this time not only fallout but droves of irradiated refugees would hurry westwards. Perhaps the time has come for pan-European strategic thinking to head off a pan-European disaster.

Hurd wary of Libya's offer on wanted Lockerbie suspects

BY MICHAEL BINION, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR



DOUGLAS Hurd, the foreign secretary, yesterday voiced scepticism of the offer by Libya to hand over to the Arab League two men accused of the Lockerbie bombing. He said Britain would remain vigilant against any Libyan attempt to mislead the West. "They have made some sort of an offer... It remains to be seen what substance it has," he said.

The United States also believes that Tripoli may be playing for time to head off threatened United Nations sanctions. Thomas Pickering, the American ambassador to the UN, said the proposal might be "more of a stall than compliance". He was waiting for the offer in writing. Boutros Boutros Ghali, the UN secretary-general, was also said to be very cautious about the offer.

Sir David Hannay, the British ambassador to the UN, said there were some signs that Libya "may at last be beginning to move toward compliance".

Diego Arria of Venezuela, the president of the security council, said the two suspects, Lamen Khalifa Fhimah and Abdel Basset Ali al-Megrahi, would be "unconditionally surrendered to the Arab League". France, which is also demanding Libyan co-operation in the investigation of the bombing of a UTA plane over Africa, called the Libyan offer "positive". Jean-Bernard Mermé, the UN ambassador, said the imposition of an air and arms embargo would be suspended until the proposals could be clarified.

The assumption in the West is that the Arab League would pass the Libyans on to the UN for transfer to Scot-

land or the United States to stand trial. The handing over might be made at the United Nations Development Programme office in Tripoli. But the Arab League might wait for a ruling on the case from the International Court of Justice in The Hague.

The seven-member delegation, due to return to Cairo today, included the foreign ministers of Egypt, Morocco, Tunis and Mauritania and senior officials from Libya, Syria and Algeria.

Arab diplomats were optimistic that the handing over would be "unconditionally surrendered to the Arab League". France, which is also demanding Libyan co-operation in the investigation of the bombing of a UTA plane over Africa, called the Libyan offer "positive". Jean-Bernard Mermé, the UN ambassador, said the imposition of an air and arms embargo would be suspended until the proposals could be clarified.

Libya has not said when, where or how the two men

were delivered to the Arab League, nor if any strings are attached. Mr Abdel-Maguid said before leaving Cairo that he was "not aware of any conditions" but had not yet received written details from the Libyans.

If they are willing to hand over the two men in circumstances which will lead to their being brought to justice either in Scotland or the United States, well and good," Mr Hurd told a Conservative news conference yesterday.

"If not we will have to proceed at the UN with the kind of measures... which are being discussed at present," he added. "It's up to them to comply with the UN demands."

An Arab League delegation flew to Tripoli yesterday to discuss the Libyan offer with Colonel Gadaffi. It was led by Esamat Abdell-Maguid. The League's secretary-general, who said Libya's offer was a "sign of its flexibility" and should be appreciated.

Libya has not said when, where or how the two men

Guests hurt in Amman hotel fire

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Bush, rebuked by Richard Nixon and prodded by Helmut Kohl, the chancellor of Germany, is soon expected to set aside his election-year abhorrence of foreign affairs and propose a comprehensive new multi-billion-dollar aid package for the former Soviet republics.

The State Department is quietly preparing such a package. At a White House meeting on Monday a bipartisan group of senators urged strong presidential leadership to sell the package to a hostile Congress and recession-battered nation, and left "cautiously optimistic" that Mr Bush would indeed be more assertive.

Patrick Buchanan's fading "America first" challenge also makes that more likely.

The package reportedly includes roughly \$1 billion (£581 million) towards an international rubble stabilisation fund, a \$12-billion increase in American contributions to the International Monetary Fund, \$620 million for emergency humanitarian aid already announced, more agricultural credit guarantees and the ending of Cold War trade restrictions.

Mikhail Gorbachev, the former Soviet president, gave a warning in an interview published here yesterday that social tensions caused by declining living standards in the former Soviet Union had reached an "explosive critical mass" and called some actions of the republics' leaders "sheer madness".

Mr Gorbachev told *The Washington Post* his country was being torn apart. Economic ties were disintegrating. Commonwealth leaders "sheer madness".

Tyson target

Indianapolis The prosecution will recommend this week that Mike Tyson, former world heavyweight boxing champion, be jailed for six to 10 years and fined \$30,000 (£17,440) for raping Desire Washington, as well as pay related costs. (AP)

Bush earmarks aid for republics

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

THE former Master of the Rolls Lord Denning won his dispute with two vicars yesterday when Basinsko council in Hampshire agreed to treat him as trustee in charge of the Old School at Whitchurch, enabling him to convert it into a community centre for local people.

The vicars had offered to sell the building to the town council, but Lord Denning questioned their right to do so. He expects to have to put thousands of pounds of his own money towards the cost of the conversion.

A jury in a mock television trial yesterday acquitted Paul Keating, Australia's prime minister, of "murdering" the economy. David Lange, the former prime minister of New Zealand, was prosecutor in the case.

Paul McCartney, a vegetarian for 20 years, has persuaded meat-loving Eddie Murphy to convert to vegetarianism for a week as the price for collaborating on an all-star charity single.

The chairman of National Power, Sir Trevor Holdsworth, was installed as the third chancellor of Bradford University in West Yorkshire yesterday, succeeding Sir John Harvey-Jones.

The story of singer Neil Sedaka's love-at-first-sight courtship of his wife is being turned into a film. Sedaka married Leba 30 years ago after saying: "See that girl? I'm going to marry her."

Our debt to a slayer of sacred cows

Keith Joseph on the work of Friedrich von Hayek

The gentle, cultivated polymath Friedrich August Hayek, who died this week, both predicted and outlined the sedition to which good intentions and rationalism can lead ancient civilisations. From *The Road to Serfdom*, published in 1944, through to his last book, *The Fatal Conceit*, he analysed the unintended poverty and the lack of freedom to which socialism – and flabby, statist conservatism too – can lead.

I am no Hayek scholar. I am not competent to write about his subtle and wide-ranging work. What I can bear witness to is his relevance to the past three Conservative governments, and the liberating effect on our recent political life of the writings of Hayek, who was Austrian by birth but naturalised British.

When in 1974, with the help of Nigel Vinson and Alfred Sherman, Margaret Thatcher and I set up the Centre for Policy Studies, we knew that the good intentions of the Ted Heath years – and of previous Tory governments too – had come to grief. And we struggled to learn the lessons. Time and again we learnt from analyses that Hayek had already published. It was he, for instance, who had predicted that the deliberate pursuit of full employment would, because of its inflationary consequences, be self-defeating. Even Harold Wilson admitted later that "Inflation is the father and mother of unemployment".

Many politicians – and scholars also, I believe – did not realise the relevance of what Hayek's multi-disciplined learning until we had experienced the evils that he had foreseen. We read his *The Constitution of Liberty*, published in 1960. We learnt to distrust the quicksands of "social justice", as opposed to the rule of law, and we learnt to distrust the "scientism" of the rationalists. We learnt about the obstacles to Hayek's "regime of freedom" which were results of trade union power, or results of the non-bankruptcy of the then vast public sector, or of the acceptance of pay, price, dividend and exchange controls which had been established. And we learnt about the ratcheting-to-the-left effect of an unprincipled determination to be "moderate".

Hayek must have admired the work of Margaret Thatcher in tackling each of these obstacles to prosperity and freedom, and her recognition that the market order could do its benign work only within a constantly adjusted framework of law and regulation.

On the other hand, he regretted what he believed was the slowness of Mrs Thatcher's timetable for tackling inflation in 1979: he judged that the electorate would only tolerate a very short and therefore very sharp deceleration in the growth of money. In the event, the soaring of sterling coupled with constraint on the money-supply achieved the reduction of inflation within the electorate's tolerance.

Hayek greatly admired a particular passage by Burke which reads: "Men are qualified for civil liberty in each proportion to their disposition to put moral chains upon their appetites..." Hayek must have sympathised with Mrs Thatcher in confronting the problem of how to tackle, within a free society, the cataclysmic effects on moral restraint of television and permissiveness. On an equally wide issue, he must have rejoiced at her explicit determination to demolish the sacred tenets of socialism, not just to delay their implementation as previous Tory leaders had been content to do. In this aim she was so successful that Labour was forced at least nominally to drop most of its old shibboleths. His last book, *The Fatal Conceit* (1988), explained vividly why the centralised decision-making at the heart of socialism must bring such a society to ruin.

Margaret Thatcher obviously admired and respected Hayek and his work. It must have been she who recommended him for the Companion of Honour, to which the Queen – to Hayek's known delight – duly appointed him.

Lord Joseph was a cabinet minister 1970-74 and 1979-86.

Black women face discrimination from white society and their own men, argues Conor Cruise O'Brien

Slaves to race and sex

I am studying black feminism. That is not what I set out to study, but that is what it turned into. I set out to study the multicultural or politically correct coalition on American campuses. That coalition includes both women's studies people and black studies people, but the former are almost all white and the latter are mostly male, and not feminists.

I began investigating the multiculturalism phenomenon at the Wilson Centre for International Scholars in Washington DC last autumn, arriving just at the start of the sensational Senate hearings over Anita Hill's charges of sexual harassment against President Bush's Supreme Court nominee, Clarence Thomas. The case split the multicultural alliance. Most blacks were pro-Thomas, and virtually all feminists (whether they were white or black) were pro-Hill.

So I decided to give particular attention to the interaction between women's studies and black studies within the multi-

cultural alliance. I expected, and indeed hoped to witness a growing divergence between the two. Their alliance has been based on targeting the white male as the root of all evil, and this gets tedious after a while if you happen to be a white male.

I began reading everything I could find about the history of black women in America written by black feminist women. I expected to find a lot of propaganda. What I found was a solid body of historical work and an absorbing human story.

Black feminist writing is more wide-ranging and perceptive than the white feminist kind.

White feminism is aware of only one oppressor. Black feminists are aware of three: white men, white women and black men.

Black feminists have reason to know that it is not only white men who can be racist,

and not only white men who can be sexist. Black women have also a far greater experience of oppression than white women, and a somewhat greater experience of it than black men.

Black women had been left out of history until they started writing it for themselves. You will not find the name Sojourner Truth in *The Dictionary of American Biography*. Yet the woman who took that name was one of the most remarkable Americans who ever lived. She was born a slave, and being exceptionally strong became a field-slave. Overpowering her overseer, she escaped to New York in 1827. In 1843, "the Spirit commanded her to travel and preach and she announced herself Sojourner Truth". She was received in abolitionist and feminist circles, which of course overlapped, and

she attended the Women's Rights Convention in Akron, Ohio in 1851.

There she delivered two memorable rebukes, one to a white man, the other to a white woman. A clergyman had admonished participants in the convention about their rights and duties. It was Sojourner Truth who answered him: "That little man in black there, he says women can't have the same rights as men because Christ wasn't a woman! Where did your Christ come from? From God and a woman! Men had nothing to do with him."

The other was addressed to a woman who had complained about sundry acts of male oppression, including the manner in which she had been handed into her carriage. Sojourner Truth answered: "Nobody never oppressed me by handing

women a high propensity to be feminists and many blacks – most men and also some women – resent educated black women.

Hated of men for women appears to be stronger among blacks than among whites. In the 1960s, Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan diagnosed what he called a "pathological matriarchal situation" in the black community, meaning that the status of women was higher, and that of men lower, than he considered appropriate. Some blacks strongly agreed with him. He reported that when he had asked a distinguished negro sociologist what could be done to help the negro man, the sociologist replied: "Anything that could be done to hurt the negro woman would help."

Awareness of manifold hostility around you can be stimulating to the wits and the perceptions, as the history of the Jews has shown. The responses of black feminists to that hostility that surrounds them are impressive and edifying.

Labour's credibility gap

Voters are unhappy with the Tories but still have doubts about switching, says Peter Riddell

The Tories may be unpopular, but Labour has not yet convinced people that it can do better. My impression from speaking to voters and experienced canvassers in the last few days is that many voters are fed up with the government, but they are sceptical about both parties' promises. That accounts for the large number of undecided voters (many more than in recent campaigns) – notably the young, mortgage-holders and those living in the south.

Talking to people in Lordship Lane in Dulwich on Monday I was struck as I was in Letchworth last Thursday, by the number of people saying they felt "let down" by the government. The disillusionment appears to be greatest among those who began to climb the economic ladder during the Thatcher years, first-time home-buyers and those who bought council houses rather than those who remained tenants. They have suffered from high mortgage rates, arrears and repossession.

Moreover, contrary to the conventional wisdom after the 1983 and 1987 elections, which suggested that unemployment was not electorally significant, the recession is now having an impact. Even in previously prosperous areas such as East Anglia and the Home Counties, Tory candidates report that unemployment is being mentioned on the doorsteps for the first time. People there feel especially aggrieved, since they did not expect to be made redundant or to find it hard to get jobs.

But Labour should not become complacent. The leadership may be self-confident, the morale of activists may be the highest for nearly 20 years, and reports from the marginal seats may be encouraging, but discontent with the Tories' record and sympathy for the "time for a change" appeal do not necessarily represent enthusiasm for a Labour government. The Labour response has been

a sleight of hand, a pretence that an emergency recovery programme, extra spending on health and education and a rise in tax thresholds – all over and above what is planned by the Tories – can be financed without an increase in the general level of taxation. Fewer than 20 per cent will pay more, Labour claims. The illusion is that there is such a thing as a free lunch, paid for by rich Uncle Bob and Aunt Betty. To square the circle, Labour has had to propose large tax increases in tax and national insurance for middle managers and the like, and not just for the very rich.

The Tories were yesterday gleefully pointing to Denis Healey's comment in his mem-

oirs that "Any substantial attempt to improve the lot of the poorest section of the population must now be at the expense of the average man and woman, since the very rich do not collectively earn enough to make much difference, and the average man does not nowadays want to punish those who earn a little more than he, since he goes ultimately to join them."

Nor is it any answer to talk of using the tax revenue from growth to finance extra spending over the life of the next parliament. The money has already been allocated. The deterioration in public finances revealed in the Red Book shows that any further revenue will be needed to get public borrowing down to the European target of 3 per cent of national income. Labour would probably not reduce borrowing below that level. Even assuming that the Treasury projections are right, that will produce only a few billion pounds in 1995 and beyond. David Mellor yesterday talked of the next spending round not being an easy one, with the Treasury "bearing down heavily" on additional discretionary expenditure.

Labour cannot really look to faster growth for salvation; the Treasury is already assuming 3 per cent annual growth from 1994 onwards. Labour's emergency investment programme might boost growth slightly in the interim, but the room for manoeuvre on macro-economic policy is strictly limited by Britain's membership of the exchange-rate mechanism and the need to stay in line with Germany's interest rates set by the Bundesbank.

Lord Kinnock argues that Labour has been careful not to commit itself to any increases in

public spending and improvements in the welfare state beyond John Smith's immediate package. Nonetheless, the Labour manifesto is full of what may euphemistically be called aspirations, which are not only uncouth but which will also raise expectations.

Last night's emotionally charged Labour election broadcast about the differing treatment of two little girls for an ear complaint – one whose parents can afford to pay and one who has to wait many months – was intended to leave the unmistakeable impression that the health service would improve substantially under Labour.

The solid and suave front presented by Mr Smith may so far have deflected most of the Tories' attacks over the alleged £38 billion cost of Labour's programme, a figure which appears too big to be plausible. But there are many loose ends for Central Office to exploit.

Labour and Tory views do differ, but the difference is mainly one of degree. The Tories have aimed at containing the growth of the overall tax burden in face of what Mr Mellor yesterday described as the "inexorable growth in key social services provision", while cutting income tax where they can. Ministers would have done better to have made a virtue of this record, as a sign of their commitment to the welfare state, rather than appearing to quibble about the trend like Treasury accountants.

In that respect, the Liberal Democrats have been more candid in using the relative freedom of their minority status by acknowledging both that an anti-recession programme might involve increased borrowing in the short-term, and that an expansion in the education budget might require an increase in the basic rate of income tax. That appeal has helped prevent the party from being squeezed out by the Tories and Labour.

There is no easy way out for a party of the left: if it wants to expand public provision, the tax burden is likely to have to rise. That is partly why voters still have doubts about Labour.



Journalism once removed

THE election campaign has claimed another casualty. John Sweeney, a journalist who works for *The Observer* and BBC's *The Late Show*, has been thrown off John Major's battle bus for filming those moments the camera was never meant to see.

His expulsion comes as a result of protests not only from Major's entourage but from other journalists objecting to being filmed by Sweeney, who was commissioned by *The Late Show* to compile a lasting piece on the election coverage.

Sweeney's handheld video camera or camcorder, irritated politicians, journalists and photographers alike. As a result, Tim Collins, the Tory party's 27-year-old press secretary, summoned Sweeney late on Monday and told him not to return next day.

Sweeney says he has suffered more aggravation covering the general election than he experienced during the Romanian revolution or the war in Yugoslavia. "I was shocked," he said. "I filmed a Serbian general inside Zagreb during an air raid while the shells were falling, but I never experienced this. I am mystified as to what I am supposed to have done wrong."

Last week Sweeney spent two days without incident accompanying Neil Kinnock. He even persuaded Glenys Kinnock to hold the camera for shots of himself in the film. John Major also turned to cameraman 30,000 feet in the air on the Tory jet for Sweeney's film.

But shortly afterwards Sweeney committed his unforgivable sin: he filmed the prime minister on the plane giving journalists one of those off-the-record briefings which never took place. The reporters were even more outraged



than the prime minister. A Tory party spokesman says: "We hadn't realised what sort of filming he was going to do. He was intruding on the other reporters' privacy."

And as we all know, no one places

greater emphasis on respect for privacy than journalists...

● Barbara Cartland finished work yesterday on what she claims is her 559th book. It ends, as ever, happily – but it was not always so. "I once wrote a book in which instead of marrying a duke the heroine went off to a convent," she says. "I received so many complaints I changed it to happy ending for the second edition."

A word from Gerald

A FURIOUS Chris Patten was badly let down yesterday by the Tory spy in the Labour camp. The espionage is entirely above-board, for each of the main parties offers full facilities to its rivals at the daily press conferences. At this election, the Tories have the advantage of going last, allowing their speakers full briefings on their rivals.

Yesterday things were seriously

awry. Patten opened the Tories' press conference with an blistering attack on Gerald Kaufman, whom, he claimed, Labour was not prepared to allow out in public. What his spy had not told him was that Kaufman had fronted

Labour's press conference half an hour earlier – and had challenged Douglas Hurd to a televised debate. Even as Patten was speaking, a gleeful Lucy Howson, the regular Labour spy in the Tory camp, was on the mobile phone telling Walworth Road about the gaffe.

So what had happened to the Tory spy, the Central Office library assistant Matthew Rees? The head of the Tory research department, Andrew Lansley, says: "We did have someone there but I don't know what happened." Patten has particular reason to be unmoved by the blunder. "Chris's first job when he came to Central Office, some 30 years ago was to monitor Labour's press conferences," Lansley says.

MAINTAINING
BALLOT RUSSIE
WITH the fervour of the converted, MPs from the Russian Federation have taken one look at the British election and decided that although Moscow may have come to democracy late, it already does these things rather better.

"In your country, elections seem to be about negative tactics and public cynicism," says Dimitri Rogozin, a 29-year-old MP in the Russian Federation. He has been shocked by the Tory posters that read "You can't trust Labour". "I wouldn't trust anyone who did something like that," he says. "No party in Russia would produce such a poster."

Rogozin is in London with a hundred other delegates mainly from Eastern European countries for a conference at Lancaster House, organised before the election was announced. The delegates spent yesterday campaigning with the Liberal Democrats in Richmond, while today they will be on the stump with the Conservatives in Streatham and with Labour in Battersea.

Rogozin – a hero of the parades outside Moscow's White House during the coup last August – is shocked by the apathy he has found. "Here people don't seem to care who they vote for because democracy is stable. In Russia it is much more serious because who you vote for determines not only how soon people get freedom but whether or not they get a piece of sausage. We will never get bored of elections."

Daniela-Carmen Craescu, the Romanian MP and writer, was even more scathing. "If the British had seen our lives in the past 45 years, they wouldn't be cynical about elections. We are enjoying our elections very much. Why don't the British enjoy theirs?"



...and moreover

ALAN COREN

Something has really got up my teeth on, nose, up my nose, this morning. Not to put too fine a thing on it, it could well be the straw that broke the, the oh God, big animal, like a horse but lumpy, does that ring a, think of that man from was it Arabia, they made a film about him, anyway he rode around on one as I recall, he blew up a train in somewhere or other during one of the world wars, you must have seen it, it had the one in it with the moustache, swarthy bloke, bridge-player if my memory serves me right, unless it was snooker. You know who I mean.

Where was I? Oh, right, I wanted to tell you about this infuriating item I read in the *Daily*, the *Sunday*, hang on, I cut it out and put it down somewhere. I was reading it in the kitchen, no, the dining-room, the kitchen was where I went to get the scissors to cut it out with, so I probably carried it back into the dining-room, if you'll just bear with me I'll go and, ah, no, it's all coming back, I put it in my jacket pocket, but it doesn't seem to be wait a sec, I wasn't wearing a jacket then, I didn't put my jacket on until well after, or rather just before, anyhow there was a ring at the back door, front door, and I had to go out and, hold on, it was my dressing-gown pocket, I read it while I was making the, or did my wife make it, anyhow I'll just nip upstairs and

Sorry I've been so long, I was standing in the bedroom staring

at my dressing-gown and then I had to go back downstairs and come up again to try to remember why I had gone upstairs for my dressing-gown in the first place, and then after I went back upstairs it suddenly occurred to me that I hadn't telephoned someone I had to ask about something or other, Mr. Mr., could be Geoff, my wife knows who he is, but she's gone out to see her, as you were, down to the, the oh God, tall redbrick building on the corner of, you must know the road, it's name after King, not an English King, a king, of the, of the country had something to do with him, I get this picture of a tin, anyway if I come to it in a bit, and then I can phone her there and ask her about this Geoff person, or possibly Brian, she may know what I did with his number, too, I know I wrote it down in the back of, I tell a lie, on the cover of, anyway I was in the middle of reading it when he phoned the first time, thick yellow paperback with some kind of a crustacean on, could have been a crayfish, it didn't have claws, yes it did, he won the Booker Prize a year or so back, might have been 1987 now I think about it, if that was the year we went to Bimini, or was it the Whitbread? I think I may have met him once, we were at this hotel, sorry, party. Airport. Not Gatwick.

Anyway, I've got the dressing-gown now, so that's all right, I'll tell you an interesting thing about this dressing-gown, it wasn't always blue, it used to be,



● Will the Albanian election pave the way for a retired British electrician to reclaim his throne? Prince Charles Castriot De Renzi, aged 74, from Stoke, claims to be a direct descendant of the 15th-century King Castriot Skanderbeg, and says his claim to the throne is far greater than King Zog's descendants. But if he is summoned back he will rule from afar. "It would be dangerous for me to go back now and I cannot speak the language," he says.



THE DEEPEST DIVISION

The Tories want to switch attention in the election campaign to foreign affairs. This is a subject on which they have been and are strong, and Labour both has been and is weak. Are they right and would the country be wise to heed them?

There is little realistically to choose between the two big parties in most areas of foreign policy. The famous cliché remains true, that British interests are best protected by identifying them with American interests. Transatlantic bipartisanship underpins policy in the Gulf and towards Eastern Europe. In practice it also applies to policy towards South Africa, the Middle East, Gatt and collective security. Even on defence daylight is hard to detect between Labour and Tory.

The public need not worry that British interests round the world will be seriously jeopardised by a Labour government. John Major and Douglas Hurd auditioned yesterday as a more convincing double act on the international stage than Neil Kinnock and Gerald Kaufman. Mr Kaufman's cankerous nipping of Mr Hurd's every move suggests a smallness of mind alien to the practice of diplomacy. But high office could yet raise his game.

However, in one area of policy — the European Community — bipartisanship is not present. True, the Tories may talk tougher than they are inclined to act, while Labour may find itself having to act tougher than it has so far talked. But a deep divide separates Mr Kinnock and Mr Major on European union. And however little it may feature in the election, this area of policy will be crucial to the government of Britain over the next decade. Since the party leaders disagree so fundamentally on it, few masters deserve more attention from the voters.

At the time of Maastricht, Mr Kinnock and Mr Kaufman, with apparent sincerity, castigated the performance of the British team for lack of commitment to economic and political union. Labour would have signed the social chapter of the Maastricht treaty. It would have extended the activities of the Brussels Commission and of the European parliament. There appear to be few areas of "competence" into which Labour would not wish to see Jacques Delors and his commissioners extend their remit.

DECAY OF THE DENTIST

John Major and his ministers angrily deny that they are privatising the National Health Service. In dentistry creeping privatisation is taking place none the less. In London and the South East, those who are not old or young or poor will have a struggle to find a dentist willing to accept them as an NHS patient. Only 4 per cent of adults in the town of Bromley, Kent, have access to such treatment, *The Times* reports today. Nationally, one in four dentists are turning away NHS patients. Why?

Many dentists dislike providing NHS care. Permission from dental service administrators has to be sought before embarking on expensive treatments. NHS dentists are forced to use inferior materials. They are also forced, under the new dental NHS contract, to register patients and accept continuing 24-hour responsibility for them. They are paid for this trouble, but their NHS fees have been cut back. Meanwhile, dental charges, which raise £400 million a year for the NHS, have gone up. Adult patients now pay 75 per cent of the cost of their treatment, up to a maximum of £200. Many dentists find it simpler to persuade adult customers to pay in full, and stay clear of the NHS altogether.

Robin Cook for Labour promised yesterday to rescue the NHS dentist. He will be revealing his £1 billion NHS spending plan today, but has already pledged that his party would reintroduce free dental checks and would end other charges as and when finance permits.

Tory ministers insist dentistry is safe in their hands. They point out that pensioners, pregnant women, children and those on income support do not have to pay for treatment. They maintain that enough dentists remain to treat such patients. Nor

Labour's flirtation with Brussels may have been a passing affair, a calculation that any prevailing philosophy to the left of Thatcherism could not be all bad: "The enemy of my enemy is my friend". A Labour government, finding the EC denying it some of its programme, may regret having been so enamoured of federalism. With a minimum of grace, Mr Kaufman did accept the Conservative position that control of European economic and monetary policy remain firmly in the hands of national governments, co-ordinated through the ministerial council structure. Labour does not want a fully independent central European bank like the Bundesbank model.

None the less, the path to European economic and political union well demonstrates Mr Kinnock's political thought process. A federal Europe is presented by M Delors and his acolytes in Brussels as the continental apotheosis of a planned and regulated economy, with a central authority asserting social priorities, protecting labour and industrial cartels and ordering international tax redistribution. This is not based on any USA model: this is a far more interventionist regime, rooted in a far more interventionist political culture. Labour has understandably sound on the Delors vision as one of its few "post-socialist" articles of faith.

While Mr Major has indeed taken Britain deeper into the EC — dangerously into the ERM as Chancellor, reluctantly towards EMU at Maastricht — he and his colleagues remain suspicious of further steps towards supranationality. Mr Major says he was satisfied that the Maastricht treaty was "the best possible treaty for the UK and for Europe." But his alarm in the run-up to the treaty was well justified: his attempt to reform it and delay monetary union was sound; his refusal to sign the social chapter was wholly in Britain's interest.

For Labour to abrogate yet more freedom of economic manoeuvre is indefensible. For it to do so when many sensible politicians on the continent of Europe, including left-wing ones, are growing wary of economic and political union, is stupid and archaic. This is not just one more election issue; over the lifetime of the next Parliament, it could prove the most important of all.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID L CROSBY
(Consultant surgeon),
RUSSELL HOPKINS (Consultant maxillofacial surgeon),
MICHAEL ROSEN
(Professor in anaesthetics),
University Hospital of Wales,
Heath Park, Cardiff.
March 24.

BMA meeting on NHS reforms

From Mr David L Crosby and others

Sir, On March 26 the British Medical Association holds a controversial representative meeting to consider the NHS reforms and the BMA council's document, *Leading for Health*. The cost of this meeting will add significantly to the £2.2 million already dissipated in the campaign against the NHS and Community Services Bill of 1990.

The fact is that the many disasters forecast by the opponents of the reforms have not occurred. Far from old ladies being deprived of their medicines and the chronic sick neglected, there is increasing evidence of a new sensitivity to the needs of general practitioners and their patients by NHS hospitals.

Neither directly managed nor trust hospitals can now afford to sit back and expect patients to endlessly wait. It can be no surprise too that the numbers of general practitioners favouring budget-holding have doubled, and 20 per cent more are no longer opposed to that concept.

The separation of purchaser from provider is producing large improvements in throughput and the quality of patient care. The NHS had become complacent and always too ready to blame underfunding.

In the hospitals, better management, competitive tendering, the devolution of decision-taking and the involvement of clinicians in their management have created an atmosphere of enthusiasm and a willingness to make better use of resources. There is, too, a welcome emphasis on higher standards and audit.

We support reforms which are essential steps in ensuring the focusing of resources for the continuance of a comprehensive National Health Service, free at the point of delivery.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID L CROSBY
(Consultant surgeon),
RUSSELL HOPKINS (Consultant maxillofacial surgeon),
MICHAEL ROSEN
(Professor in anaesthetics),
University Hospital of Wales,
Heath Park, Cardiff.
March 24.

Orthodoxy and Duke

From the Bishop of Gibraltar in Europe

Sir, Your article (March 18) about the possibility of a visit by the Duke of Edinburgh to the Ecumenical Patriarch made sad reading, and shows little understanding of the importance of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, which ranks as the first of all the holy Orthodox churches throughout the world, and is by no means a "minority sect".

His All Holiness Bartholomew I is already a much respected leader by Christians of all denominations, and as the son of a barber is well qualified to share in the ministry of Jesus, the good shepherd of our souls, who himself was trained in a carpenter's shop. It was surprising to read that the present patriarch lives in a few ramshackle buildings, when the patriarchate has been most beautifully restored in recent years (the greater part of it was burnt down at the beginning of the second world war).

It is not the Ecumenical Patriarch who regards himself as *primus inter pares* but the entire Orthodox world, composed not only of Orthodox Christians from south-eastern Europe but from every continent in the world.

It is the Ecumenical Patriarch who regards himself as *primus inter pares* but the entire Orthodox world, composed not only of Orthodox Christians from south-eastern Europe but from every continent in the world.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN GIBRALTAR,
5a Gregory Place,
Kensington, W8.
March 19.

Kemptown candidate

From Mrs Jaquette James

Sir, As the widow of David James, the Conservative defeated in Brighton Kemptown in 1964, I can assure Sir Robert Rhodes James ("Here's to the Class of '59", March 14) that far from my husband being absent during the election campaign, I drove him daily round the constituency in the loudspeaker van throughout the three weeks, as well as to his evening meetings. He missed canvassing only one morning when he had lost his voice.

The fact that my husband was later adopted for North Dorset, a seat he held from 1970 until he retired in 1979, indicates that Central Office did not attribute the loss of Kemptown to him personally.

Yours faithfully,
JAQUETTA JAMES,
Tomasz Castle,
Isle of Mull, Argyll.
March 16.

Payment of legal fees

From the Chairman of the Bar and the President of the Law Society

Sir, The Lord Chancellor's letter (March 21) on legal fees is a shade disingenuous, on two counts.

1. Civil legal aid: The Lord Chancellor concedes that he presides over a scheme which allows payment of only 54 per cent after 12 months (solicitors) or 62 per cent after 18 months (barristers), following the issue of a legal aid certificate. In the nature of things, legal work begins very soon after the issue of the certificate if bills are assessed, on average, at about 75 per cent of the sum claimed, what is the justification

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Election 92: business and science votes, overseas aid

From Mr Philip D. Greatorex

Sir, As a middle-aged, middle-class self-employed businessman with a wife and two children who has voted Conservative for 20 years, I wonder if Sir Allen Sheppard et al (letter, March 17) could tell me, in the light of the following, why I should do so this time?

Thanks to Messrs Saatchi, Saatchi and Patten "whammy" seems to be the word of the moment. Let us consider the government's triple whammy:

1. In 1987-8, while John Major was chief secretary to the Treasury, the economy was allowed to overheat, which caused the present recession;

2. To correct the situation John Major, as Chancellor of the Exchequer, presided at the point when it is equivalent to 13p of standard rate of income tax. City analysts to a man were knocked for six at the figure of £28 billion.

Yet, still, all we hear from government ministers is that our rate of inflation is now lower than that of Germany (just). Is that surprising when Germany currently has huge inflationary pressures? And why is it considerably higher than that of socialist France after the pain of our record levels of bankruptcies, business failures, house repossessions and nearly three million people unemployed?

I do not relish John Major's tax proposals. In fact, I deplore them, but I respect his honesty and integrity for telling me what to expect, so that I can budget for it. It is a refreshing change from a prime minister and Chancellor of the Exchequer who until recently have denied the very existence of recession.

Yours faithfully,
PHILIP D. GREATOREX,
37 West Park, Minehead, Somerset.
March 23.

From Mr George Plint

Sir, I am the managing director of a small engineering company which employs 55 people. Last year our turnover was £2 million, of which 90 per cent was export. A substantial proportion of our sales was to major companies in the USA, Japan and Germany.

Our success depends heavily on high-quality engineers and technicians. Well before the age of 30 a good graduate engineer (a highly saleable commodity overseas) can earn substantially more than the

Iraq's weapons

From the Director of the Institute of Economic and Political Studies

Sir, I must dispute your leading article, "America's risky course" (March 16). The early elimination of Iraq's weapons of mass destruction and missile production facilities can be accomplished at an acceptable political and military price. Target location is not an insuperable problem. Accurate intelligence can be gathered and properly assessed to enable the Tomahawk cruise missiles to strike with surgical accuracy.

Clearly in the absence of specific military action — and not merely the threat to resort to it — President Saddam Hussein has achieved a striking diplomatic triumph over the UN simply by blocking the UN inspection teams. The failure to

Yours sincerely,
GEOFFREY LEE WILLIAMS,
Director,
INSTEP,
Warkworth House,
Warkworth Terrace,
Cambridge.
March 19.

Nuclear accidents

From the Director, Medical Campaign Against Nuclear Weapons

Sir, This morning's media frisson surrounding the first reports of the nuclear accident near St Petersberg reveals an awareness which is so often buried.

While we wait to hear what the damage is and to whom, more political reflection is needed on what is to be done about civil and military nuclear facilities in the CIS and eastern Europe, and not just there but here and across the globe.

How many accidents, and they will continue to occur, do we need before all nuclear programmes are shut down and the best scientific brains we have are assembled to find out if the nuclear genie, or most of it, can be stuffed back in the bottle which, with the benefit of hindsight, our leaders were so unwise to uncork?

Yours faithfully,
TONY SMYTHE, Director,
Medical Campaign Against
Nuclear Weapons,
601 Holloway Road, N19.
March 24.

for not allowing that proportion after three months?

May we offer the answer? It is a deliberate device to delay payment for work properly done. As such, it does not differ in principle from the vice the Chancellor of the Exchequer castigates.

2. Criminal legal aid: In cases involving a claim of more than £4,000, the best the central taxing units can aim for is three months after the case is "ready to tax". That target is not met on the South Eastern Circuit (the largest). Delays are lengthening. The delays are a function of an under-funded and under-manned system.

The system of annual negotiations,

£21,060 upper limit on National Insurance contributions. Why spend more money on education and training if we are going to encourage our best to flee the country?

We have not individually or collectively made huge fortunes in recent years as others have done through property speculation, mergers and acquisitions or Eurobond dealing. We have made adequate returns and salaries through making and selling things and through hard work and innovation in a very competitive market. Why does the Labour party want to punish us?

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE PLINT,
The Well House,
Malshanger, Hampshire.
March 23.

From Dr Terence Kealey

Sir, In their attempt at pushing science into the party political debate, Professor Paul Nurse et al write (letter, March 23): Between 1981 and 1991, government funding of the science base fell from 0.35 per cent... to 0.28 per cent of GDP... This shortfall has not... been balanced by an equivalent increase in industrially funded research and development.

This is a misleading statement: first, government funding did not fall; but British GDP rose (dramatically); and secondly, other sources of funding for science also rose dramatically over that time (industrial, charitable and private funding for university science all doubled during the 1980s).

The crucial statistic is this: during the 1980s, the numbers of university academics rose by 700 a year, and there are now 7,000 more than there were ten years ago. This is not

During the 1980s, many prominent scientists claimed that British science was in decline. This has done great harm: first, the transparent falsity of the claim dismayed those who believed that scientists would always put truth above politics; and secondly, the claim damaged the morale of young researchers who trusted their senior's statements.

There are, of course, problems in science and the universities (the career structure, for example) but since these problems are largely of our own making, we should not use them to fuel our party-political commitments.

Yours faithfully,
TERENCE KEALEY,
University of Cambridge,
Department of Clinical
Biochemistry,
Addenbrooke's Hospital,
Hills Road, Cambridge.
March 23.

prevent this because of short-term electoral considerations on either side of the Atlantic threatens international security.

The dispatch of an allied armada should not be an exercise in non-belligerent power to promote the pressing electoral ambitions of either President Bush or Mr John Major. The current build-up of the US strike force should be a serious deployment of usable power directed at specific targets identified by the UN as constituting a potential threat to world peace.

Yours sincerely,
GEOFFREY LEE WILLIAMS,
Director,
INSTEP,
Warkworth House,
Warkworth Terrace,
Cambridge.
March 19.

Breakfast survey

From Mr Egon Ronay

Sir, Joe Joseph was quite correct in reporting ("Airport breakfast wins flying colours", March 23) that "plenty of money" was paid for surveys and reporting on breakfasts at Heathrow over a period of three months. That's what it took for me to assemble a team of four, including myself, to carry out the task of testing well over 700 items of food and breakfast drinks, and to put together and publish a magazine to publicise the operation, to which distinguished journalists are contributing.

But Mr Joseph was not correct to doubt the anonymity or otherwise of our daily, early-morning visits to 23 catering outlets. Most of the time we were not recognised and, when, towards the end, we were how could the food turned out on a mammoth scale suddenly be improved because of my presence? And even if it had, that alone would be worth "plenty of money".

Yours faithfully,
EGON RONAY,
37 Walton Street, SW3.
March 23.

From Professor Earl Russell

Sir, Professor Paul Nurse, FRS, and others, on the funding of science, make a strong case against the government. I observe that their letter does not express a preference between the opposition parties.

The Liberal Democrats will immediately increase the science budget to 0.35 per cent of GDP. The signatories of the letter will no doubt wish to consider whether Labour can match this commitment, as well as their other beliefs and the political situation in their constituencies, before deciding to which of the opposition parties they will give their support.

Yours sincerely,
RUSSELL,
House of Lords.

OBITUARIES

Friedrich Hayek, CH, the economist who was known as the "father of monetarism", died at his home in Freiburg in Breisgau, Germany, on March 23 aged 92. He was born in Vienna on May 8, 1899.

FRIEDRICH Hayek was the last, and among the most distinguished, of the Austrian school of economists. During a long and fertile intellectual life, his wide interests enabled him to organise his ideas into one of the most original and impressive of all systems of political thought. From a single fundamental principle, which he called "spontaneous order", Hayek sought to deduce the evolution not only of markets, but of law and knowledge itself. All the greatest human achievements, he believed, arose from unintentional activity, to which human design was nearly always inimical. His work embraced psychology and the history of ideas as well as economics and political theory. Though based firmly on empirical research, in the end Hayek's philosophy amounted to a vast systematic elucidation of man and society.

Hayek never held office, nor, with the exception of his best-seller *The Road to Serfdom*, did he engage in political debate. But he exercised a profound influence upon the climate of thought in Britain, his adopted homeland, in America and ultimately throughout Eastern Europe. His systematic defence of individual liberty, private property and the rule of law attracted countless victims of socialism. Hayek was loathed by those who advocated state intervention into social and economic activity in order to produce a certain outcome. His last book called this vain desire "the fatal conceit".

Hayek grew up in a recently ennobled Viennese family of Czech origin. His father was a professor of botany, and the Hayeks moved in a cosmopolitan milieu which Friedrich later described as philosophical. As a young man he served in the Austrian army on the Italian front, where he met his distant cousin Ludwig Wittgenstein; the two had little in common.

At this stage Hayek was a moderate social democrat, much influenced by the leading economist and minister Friedrich von Wieser. Only when, in his mid-twenties, he met Ludwig von Mises, an uncompromising believer in the free market and the ideas of Adam Smith, did he abandon socialism. Having gained doctorates in both economics and law at Vienna University, Hayek worked as a civil servant. In 1927 he became director of the Institute of Economic Research, at which he wrote important papers on monetary theory and the trade cycle, published in book form in 1929.

By the time of the collapse of the Austrian banking system in 1931, Hayek was already sufficiently well-known for Lionel Robbins to invite him to the London School of Economics, where he became Tooke Professor of Economic Science and Statistics. But his fame as an economist dates from the lectures he gave at the LSE, published as *Prices and Production* in 1931. It was a brilliant, original, brief analysis which was highly relevant to a nation suffering from a severe deflationary slump. At the age of 32, Hayek was instantly established as a serious rival to Keynes whose star rose as the helplessness of politicians became more evident with the formation of the National Government.

By 1932 Hayek was the champion of those



who maintained, against Keynes, that state intervention in general, and demand management in particular, would be more likely to prolong the depression than to curtail it. Having published a detailed critique of Keynes's *Treatise on Money*, Hayek was dismayed to find that the Cambridge economist had already abandoned some of his main positions in that book before the review appeared. When Keynes published his *General Theory* in 1936, therefore, Hayek refused to attack it – a grave error, as he later acknowledged, for Keynesian economics thereafter speedily became dominant in Britain. The two men remained on good personal terms, however, and it was Keynes who ensured that Hayek was given rooms at King's when the LSE was evacuated to Cambridge during the war.

Meanwhile, Hayek had not been idle. He published a steady series of books and articles: *Monetary Nationalism and International Stability* (1937), in which he broke a lance for free trade and a substitute for the gold standard; *Prices, Profits and Investment*, which continued the argument of *Prices and Production*; and in 1941 there appeared what he hoped would be his *magnus opus*, *The Pure Theory of Capital*. This book, almost unnoticed amid the tumult of war, was the high watermark of Hayek's concern with technical economic theory. But the ascendancy of Keynes had given economics an empirical thrust, and Hayek was interested neither in macroeconomic policy nor in econometrics. Unlike Keynes, he did not welcome the opportunities to put his theories into practice offered by the quasi-socialist war economy.

Even before 1939, however, Hayek's work had taken a new turn, with his interest in the

theory of centrally planned economies. Hayek demonstrated in debate with the left-wing economist Oskar Lange the impracticability of substituting a central authority for the decentralised decision-making of the market. Hayek began to develop his distinctive theory of spontaneous order. He also wrote a celebrated paper – not published till 1948 in the first of several important volumes of essays, *Individualism and Economic Order* – on the two traditions of rationalism, one (benign) deriving from the Scottish enlightenment, the other (malevolent) from the French Revolution. In *The Counter-Revolution of Science* (1952) Hayek later developed this rich theme even further, into a critique of the "constructivist" rationalism popular among intellectuals, of which modern socialism was only one consequence.

During the 1939–45 war, however, Hayek had produced his one popular book, and the one for which he will always be remembered: *The Road to Serfdom*. It was not intended to be a prophecy, but to warn against the potential for creeping totalitarianism which Hayek saw hidden in the burgeoning welfare-state of the Labour party after Beveridge. *The Road to Serfdom* has sold millions of copies, though Hayek, like many economists, poor businessman, never made a penny from royalties. But from the first it made him enemies. When Churchill picked up its attack on state intervention and planning in the 1945 election campaign, Atlee made a withering reference to "the Austrian Professor Friedrich August von Hayek" (Hayek had long since become a naturalised British subject). He was hurt more by Orwell's strictures: free competition would impose a tyranny "probably worse, because more irresponsible, than that of the

State". Keynes called it a "grand" book, but stuck to his advocacy of "moderate" planning. For Hayek, the Labour landslide of 1945 presaged years in the wilderness.

In 1950 he therefore moved to Chicago, where his break with formal economics was signalled by his acceptance of a chair in social and moral science. It was a fruitful time, after his last unhappy years at the LSE. He published his theory of mind and the senses, *The Sensory Order*, in 1952; though ignored by most psychologists, it influenced the aesthetic ideas of his fellow-Viennese R. H. Gombrich. In 1960 came his magisterial political treatise, *The Constitution of Liberty*, which took many years to establish itself as a modern classic. Together with *Law, Legislation and Liberty*, which appeared in three volumes between 1973 and 1979, *The Constitution of Liberty* represents Hayek's mature political thought. Hayek is no longer primarily concerned to refute socialism, whether in its democratic or undemocratic forms, but turns his attention to the characteristic corruptions of liberal society.

Hayek was uncompromising in his readiness to limit the meddling of politicians. His ideal was indeed mid-19th century England: he was suspicious even of J. S. Mill's egalitarian tendencies, though he edited Mill's correspondence with Harriet Taylor. He abhorred what he called "weasel words", widely used by conservatives as well as social democrats, such as "social justice". All attempts to redistribute wealth were not merely inimical to the market, but to civil society itself.

In 1962 Hayek returned to Europe, this time to Freiburg in Germany, where he held a chair of economics until his semi-retirement in 1969. By this time his following around the world had grown. In Germany he had enjoyed considerable respect since Ludwig Erhard rose to power in 1948; he was close to the Ordo circle of liberal economists and jurists who influenced the Federal Republic's Basic Law. But Hayek always treated the "social market" as a propaganda tool for free competition.

When in 1974 Hayek was awarded the Nobel Prize for Economics, jointly with his old opponent Gunnar Myrdal, it was clear that the *enfant terrible* of the profession had become one of its grand old men. Another triumph was the election of Mrs Thatcher's government, which was strongly influenced by think tanks in which Hayek had played an important role, above all the Institute of Economic Affairs and later also the Adam Smith Institute. Hayek played no part in the British government, but he was treated with great respect and his books were once again quoted with respect. His bold ideas on the denationalisation of money were not taken up, but his strong views on inflation undoubtedly strengthened the government's resolve not to reflate the economy during the recession of the early 1980s. In 1984, at Mrs Thatcher's instigation, Hayek was made a Companion of Honour.

Hayek's last years were marred by illness, but he was able to finish *The Fatal Conceit*, his last book. He lived to see the collapse of communism in eastern Europe, and only in his final year or two did he lose touch with events. Hayek was twice married: to Hella von Fritsch (died 1960), by whom he had a son and a daughter, and to Helene Bitterlich. His second wife and his children survive him.

APPRECIATION

FRIEDRICH Hayek is publicly known as the arch-critic of Keynesianism, the inspirer of the foundation of the Institute of Economic Affairs and latterly as the arch-guru of Thatcherite economics. These facets of his long life are enough to assure him a place in British political history.

His important lesson that the market performs an important coordinating function and is the most efficient way of transmitting economic information is perhaps rather reluctantly accepted across the British political spectrum. Indeed, a recent survey of 1,000 economists' opinions conducted by the IEA itself displays some surprisingly strong antipathy towards Hayek's general position.

The explanation may lie in the fact that in this country we lack both the imagination and experience to know what it is like to live under a harsh collectivist regime. Hayek is now more required reading in eastern Europe; his market philosophy is the template for practical reforms. Let us hope that his disciples there also appreciate his warning that markets only survive as spontaneous institutions and cannot be designed and imposed by governments.

Such is time lag between ideas and their popular absorption (and distortion) that it is nearly 50 years ago since Hayek published *The Road to Serfdom*. Like many others, I read it on active service; in my case I think, on the last convoy to Murmansk. With the war effort at its height and Japan and Germany on the defensive, it was easy to believe that war-time planning should be the model for the future, and that the depression years of the 1930s were the inevitable manifestation of capitalist failure. Then along comes an unknown Austrian professor who stops us in our tracks. The war-time analogy, he argues, is wholly false. In war there is a consensus of aim, survival, and total war requires complete central control of the means of production. The very purpose of enduring war-time dictatorship is to restore the individual to rights, to make a right which would be destroyed by a centrally planned economy. No such economy can generate the information required to reflect the diversity of individual choices. Even if the democratic process supports intervention in the belief that

there are sufficient aims held in common those who operate the controls have a vested interest in their retention and proliferation. Planned economies are not only inefficient but morally corrupting.

One interesting result, partly attributable to Hayek's stirring *piece d'occasion* was that it reinforced a growing split between Keynesian liberals and Keynesian socialists. Liberals like Lionel Robbins and John Jewkes, war-time civil servants, called on their own experience to back Hayek's position. More interesting perhaps are Keynes's own views. Not long after the book's appearance he wrote to Hayek: "Morally and philosophically I find myself in agreement with virtually the whole of it; and not only in agreement with it, but deeply moved agreement." Keynes was clearly more impressed by the moral dilemma raised by Hayek rather than by the technical issue as to whether planning would work. There is another interesting link between them at this time. In Keynes' famous war-time plan to compensate those paying high levels of income tax by post-war credits, it is recommended that the credits should be partly financed by a capital levy on those who had made large capital gains during the war. Keynes credited Hayek with this proposal!

Current extreme libertarian writing conveniently forgets that Keynes and Hayek had a certain rapportement.

What of Hayek the man? A close friend of mine who had known Hayek for over 20 years, once plucked up the courage to write to him: "Dear Fritz". He received a severe reproof.

In my experience, as his one-time editorial assistant at LSE, I found him courteous and helpful, but, though I met him from time to time over the years, I never felt that I got to know him any better. He was more forthcoming in correspondence. I have heard those who must have been much closer to him say much the same. At least you knew where you were with him, and one had no right to expect any more from such a towering intellectual figure.

Sir Alan Peacock
Executive director of the David Hume Institute, Edinburgh, and honorary research professor in public finance at Heriot-Watt University.

JIM JOEL



Jim Joel with Grand National winner Maori Venture.

Isaac's his adopted name derived from his early days on the music halls) became, with Cecil Rhodes, one of the most influential and respected figures in the diamond industry. Under his guidance and with their own financial acumen, the brothers were millionaires before they were 30 and extended their influence beyond diamond mines to many other businesses in South Africa including breweries and collieries. Barney Barnato, however, was drowned at sea in 1897, and two years later the elder brother was murdered. So, in 1899, Solly took over leadership of their huge enterprises, while Jack returned to England to represent their companies' interests in the City – and to pursue his Turf career.

This began in 1900, and seven years later he bought, from the executors of Sir Blundell Maple, the furniture store magnate, the Childwick Bury Stud near St Albans, which he modernised. Harry Joel, later always to be known as Jim, was born in London, only son of J. B. Joel. He was educated at Merton, and served in France during the 1914–18 War with the 15th Hussars. When his

father died in 1940, he inherited £5 million and the Childwick Bury Stud. Despite the earlier modernisation, the stud had declined since the days when such Derby winners as Sunstar and Humorist were foaled, and Joel had to spend a great deal of money to bring it once again, up-to-date.

The stud showed an early return

on investment when the homebred Picture Play won a wartime One Thousand Guineas in 1944, ridden by Charlie Elliott and saddled by Joel's private trainer, J. E. Watts at Foxhill. Picture Play traced to a mare called Absurdity who had bred two Classic winners for her owner's father. When Picture Play was retired to the paddocks at Childwick Bury, she herself became an outstanding broodmare. Of her direct descendants, three became Classic winners for her owner.

A further three were placed in various Classics: West Side Story,

beaten by only inches for the 1962 Oaks by the French-trained

Monade, but the best filly of that year in both England and Ireland: Photo Flash, runner-up in the One Thousand Guineas, 1968; and Welsh Pageant, third the following

year in the Two Thousand Guineas. Apart from Picture Play's produce, the Childwick Bury Stud provided many other first-class horses and other Classics near relatives for Joel. Among the latter was Connaught who, in 1968, came near to giving him a second Derby in succession. Approaching the final furlong Connaught looked unbeatable, but was cut down by the acceleration of Sir Ivor, ridden by Lester Piggott. Major Portion was another homebred Classic runner-up, being beaten in the 1958 Two Thousand Guineas by Pall Mall, carrying the colours of HM The Queen. Later in the St James's Palace Stakes Major Portion reversed the placings.

The achievements of Joel as a breeder were complemented by those of horses he bought. He possessed keen judgement in the sale ring. Henry the Seventh, secured for 3,500 guineas at Newmarket of his

broodmares and fillies in training. This realised some £4 million, with Fairy Footsteps making the top price of 720,000 guineas. As the late Sir Noel Murless commented at the time, it was "the end of an era".

Jim Joel's quiet, unassuming manner earned him many friends in racing, the admiration of the public because there was never a breath of suspicion about the running of his horses, and the immense respect of his trainers and jockeys to whom he was unfailingly loyal.

Flat horses have retired; the most popular runner to carry the Joel colours.

Predominante was bought for hurdling, but despite having won over obstacles, he patiently disliked them so was put back to Flat racing. Trained by Ted Leader, Predominante then proceeded, between 1958 and 1960, to win the 2m 2f Goodwood Stakes three years in a row, then the following season was victorious in the even longer-distance Goodwood Cup. This he did at the grand old age of nine.

Joel had many trainers, of which the most successful on the Flat were Ted Leader, Sir Noel Murless and Henry Cecil. Over the jumps Bob Turnell and Josh Gifford served him extremely well. And Bob's son Andy trained his Grand National hero, Maori Venture. A further jumps trainer was Tim Thomson Jones who, only a fortnight ago, saddled Keep Talking to win the National Hunt Chase at Cheltenham. Joel's final win.

The involvement in National Hunt racing was on a smaller scale than breeding for and owning on the Flat, but nonetheless pursued with immense enthusiasm. In 1989, Josh Gifford bid a record £68,000 guineas on the owner's behalf for an untried jumper at the Doncaster Sales. Most of Joel's hurdlers and chasers were purchased, including Maori Venture and the Imperial Cup winner, Sir Thomas. But a sad story concerns one of the most promising jumpers Joel himself

bred.

This was Buona Note, out of his broodmare Jenny Lind, who was a daughter of Procne who had won the Ebor Handicap for Joel in 1947. After six victories in a row, and looking to be an ideal Cheltenham Gold Cup candidate, Buona Note was killed in the Great Yorkshire Chase at Doncaster in 1965 when he failed to rise to a fence.

Even sadder was the occasion in 1986 when, because through failing eyesight Joel could no longer see sufficiently to manage or enjoy matters at Childwick Bury, there was a dispersal sale at Newmarket of his 25 broodmares and fillies in training. This realised some £4 million, with Fairy Footsteps making the top price of 720,000 guineas. As the late Sir Noel Murless commented at the time, it was "the end of an era".

Jim Joel's quiet, unassuming

manners earned him many friends in racing, the admiration of the public because there was never a breath of suspicion about the running of his horses, and the immense respect of his trainers and jockeys to whom he was unfailingly loyal.

The Woolwich Free Ferry was the last achievement of the Metropolitan Board of Works which since its inception in 1855 had been responsible for many projects, notably the building of the Albert and Victoria embankments and the construction of a drainage system of 120 square miles. The board's successor, London County Council, came into operation a few days before the opening ceremony.

WOOLWICH FREE FERRY

Saturday was a grand gala day at Woolwich, the procession being the opening of the free ferry to North and South Woolwich – the first constructed in the metropolitan district. The ceremony was performed by the London County Council – the first public function they have undertaken.

Lord Rosebery, Lord Lingen, and other members of the Council were received at the Arsenal Railway Station by the chairman of the Woolwich Local Board and most of the members, also by the chairman and members of the Plumstead District Board, and others.

Having entered open carriages, accompanied by Colonel Hughes, MP for Woolwich, they waited while the boys of the Marine Society from the Warspite, the friendly societies, and the trade societies filed past with their emblems, bands and banners. A number of open carriages, with the members of the local boards and different committees, followed, and then the members of the Council in their carriages came into view.

The horses drawn by the carriages

were harnessed to the

steamer Gordon, which

together with three Volunteer

bands and about 500 ladies

and gentlemen proceeded on

her first trip across the river.

The passage across was made in three and a half minutes. The piers on each side are exactly similar, having two carriage ways in the centre and gangways on either side for foot passengers. The piers extend from the quay to the river bank, which rises and falls with the tide, but although there is a difference of 20 feet between high and low water, the length of the piers is such as to obviate any inconvenient gradient.

The horses and carriages

occupy the upper deck on

board the steamer, to reach

which iron brows, worked by

hydraulic power, are let down

into the openings cut in the bulwarks.

At North Woolwich most of the party disembarked, together with the two carriages and horses, and were met by more friendly societies in full regalia, a band of music, and a steam fire engine from the Beckton Gas Works, manned and decorated.

After about half an hour's

stay the whole were again on

board the Gordon, which pro-

ceeded to South Woolwich,</

MI5 chief invites Hattersley for talks

BY MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

STELLA Rimington, the director-general of MI5, has held an unprecedented private meeting with Roy Hattersley, the shadow home secretary. The invitation from Mrs Rimington would have been approved by Kenneth Baker, the home secretary, and by the prime minister.

Permanent secretaries have been briefing opposition ministers in the weeks leading up to the general election, but this civil service tradition has not previously involved the security service.

Mr Hattersley has pledged to introduce a new act to bring MI5, MI6, the secret intelligence service, and GCHQ, the government communications headquar-

ters, under parliamentary scrutiny should Labour win the election. The Conservatives are not planning any new legislation on intelligence and security issues.

Under Labour's charter of rights, a parliamentary intelligence select committee would be set up to oversee the work of the security and intelligence services. The committee will not oversee the day-to-day running of the services but it will have the power to order enquiries, subpoena witnesses and make recommendations to the home secretary. Labour also plans to appoint an inspector general who would have access to all classified material.

Mr Hattersley is said to have been pleased with his talks with Mrs Rimington, who took office a month ago. She is known to be reviewing MI5's role and to be considering adopting a higher public profile.

Rupert Allison, Tory parliamentary candidate for Torbay, who writes books on intelligence under the pseudonym Nigel West, said yesterday: "I have never heard of a director-general briefing an opposition home secretary before an election."

Opposition ministers are normally briefed on intelligence matters only if there is a security scandal and then by the prime minister.

Whoever wins the election, Mrs Rimington's position will be unaffected. Since MI5 is semi-autonomous, directors-general historically survive changes in government. Her three predecessors, Sir Patrick Walker, Sir Antony Duff and Sir John Jones, were all appointed by Margaret Thatcher. When she became prime minister in 1979, the MI5 chief was Sir Howard Smith, who was appointed by James Callaghan and remained in office until his retirement in 1981.

Mrs Rimington's appointment was unique because it was the first time a new MI5 chief had been named. She is also the first woman to hold the post and the first to have been a director of three of the most important departments, counter espionage, counter subversion and counter terrorism.

Alarm over nuclear accident

Continued from page 1
of easing the energy blockade imposed by the neighbouring Azerbaijan.

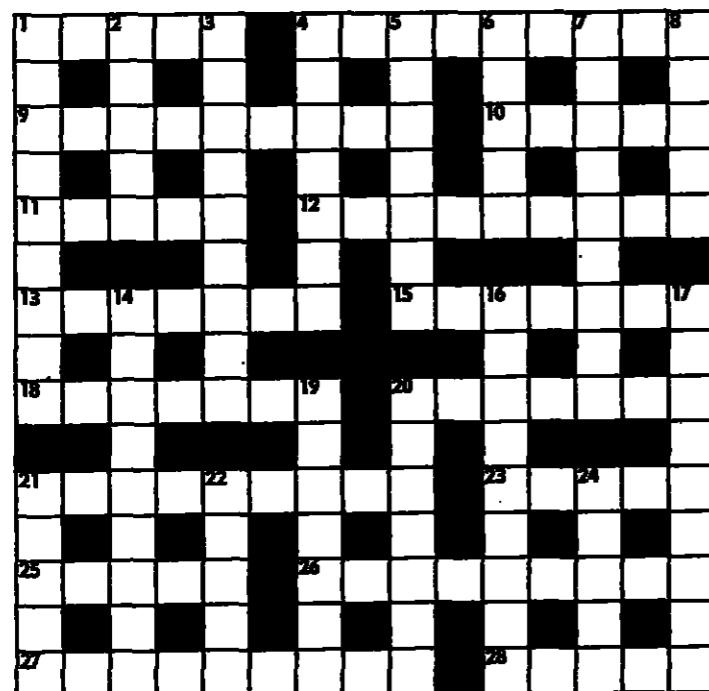
The Moscow office of Greenpeace alleged yesterday that the number of permanent safety inspectors at the St Petersburg station had recently been reduced from six to three. Dmitri Litvinov, the local Greenpeace co-ordinator, also criticised Gosatomnadzor for rushing to issue reassuring statements before any third party had had time to cross-check the information provided by the station's staff.

John Speare, another Moscow-based environmentalist, said there were alarming defects in the Russian system for detecting radioactive leaks. He had visited a monitoring station near the nuclear submarine port of Murmansk, which had no equipment for measuring radioactive iodine or caesium, two of the most lethal components.

Nuclear energy was one of the areas for central control under the Union Treaty, which Mikhail Gorbachev, the former president, tried unsuccessfully to persuade the Soviet republics to sign.

Eastern dilemma, page 11

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 18,875



A daily safari through the language jungle. What definitions are correct?

By Philip Howard

SCHOOL DAYS

- a. School pantomime
- b. Interval snack
- c. Indian's learning toy
- GUTTIERS
- a. Rain pipes
- b. School kippers served on Fridays
- c. Prefects
- HEIDI
- a. Favourite reading book
- b. Game of Hide and Seek
- c. Headmaster
- LOGICHELLY
- a. Public school
- b. School bell
- c. School uniform

Answers on page 14

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0836 401 followed by the appropriate code:

London & SE

C London (within N & S Circs)

M1/M25/M40/M4/M42

M1/M25/M4/M42

M1/M25/M4/M42

M1/M25/M4/M42

National

National motorways

West Country

Wales

Midlands

East Anglia

North-west England

North-east England

Scotland

Northern Ireland

AA Roadwatch is charged at 30p per minute (cheap rate) and 40p per minute at all other times.

Solution to Puzzle No 18,874

PENIT SOBRIQUET
O A R C U G P H
L I K E A S H O T N I G H E
I E V O C O O M
S I N G A N O T H E R T U N E
H I L L E E N
O R A C L E G R A P A T E D
F L L A S R R
F I T F U L L Y G R O Y N E
E N L B A S
S P R E A D O N E S W I N G S
W C I C N H E E
I Z A R D A N G U I S H E D
S T E T A D R U
S P E S D O W N E L L E Q U I P

Concise Crossword, page 13
Life & Times section

A fantasy world of castles from the air



This is Euro Disney, the new £2.2 billion home near Paris for Snow White and her seven dwarfs, Mickey Mouse and Donald Duck (writes Tim Jones). This aerial view shows a Mississippi-style paddle steamer cruising past le chateau de la belle au bois dormant. The maiden will

have to be in an extraordinarily deep sleep if she is to withstand the clatter of a runaway train, pirate battles in Adventureland and the noise that will be generated from the disco. In spite of local controversy and disputes with contractors over payments, the 5,000-acre magic

kingdom 25 miles east of the French capital should open as planned on April 12. It is expected to entice eleven million visitors a year, but Disney has already run into problems with its decision to ban all alcohol. Some commentators point out that French families

view wine with lunch in the same way that Americans view milk with cornflakes. More fantasy has been engendered by trade unions in Paris who claim the Disney dress code, banning beards and moustaches for men and eye-liner for women, contravenes French law.

Major trims Labour poll lead

Continued from page 1

which party had the best policy for managing the economy, their margin over the Labour party was down to just four points at 34.30. On the issue of taxation, their margin was only one point higher, with 37 per cent of respondents saying the Conservatives had the best policy and 32 per cent opting for Labour.

On taxation policy, the Conservatives have a 23-point lead among the ABC1 middle classes and a 13-point lead in the South. However, Labour has a seven-point lead in the North and among the skilled and unskilled working classes.

Another issue on which Labour has the edge over the Conservatives, by 44.20, is the replacement of the poll

tax. And when respondents were asked if they had received their new poll tax bills, only just over a third had done so. However, Mori found that 57 per cent of respondents believe poll tax levels are too high in their area and more than two-thirds said it would influence their voting decision.

The importance of the issue is likely to rise, to the benefit of Labour. Twenty-two per cent of those polled said that the arrival of a poll tax bill would make them less likely to vote Conservative. The pollsters found, however, that there was no difference in attitude over which party had the best policy for replacing the poll tax between those who had already received their community charge bills and those who had not.

Election 92, pages 6-9
Peter Riddell, page 12
Diary, page 12
Leading article and letters, page 13
L&T section, pages 5, 6, 10

Dons oppose honorary degree for philosopher

BY JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

CAMBRIDGE dons have lodged their first objection for almost 30 years to a nomination for an honorary degree. Not since Lord Hallsham encountered academic opposition in 1963 in the midst of education cuts has there been open disagreement over the candidates for Cambridge's highest honours.

The university kept well out of the last similar controversy, when Oxford refused a degree to Margaret Thatcher. But the nomination of the flamboyant left-wing French philosopher Jacques Derrida proved too much for some members of the Regent House, the university's "parliament". When his name

came up for approval, the cry of "not placed" ("I do not wish it") prevented the nomination going forward automatically. There was a murmur of surprise in the hall, but no explanation.

The controversy will come into the open today with the publication of the Cambridge University Reporter, the official journal. It will contain an announcement that a ballot is to be held on one of the eight names put forward for honorary degrees. Between 2,500 and 3,000 academics will vote on May 16 on whether to restore M Derrida's name to the list. The omens are favourable: Lord Hallsham scraped in by 20 votes.

Match scorecard, page 30

Botham and Gooch walk out

Continued from page 1
required by their contract to attend the event, he added.

Micky Stewart, team manager, also thought the entertainer in bad taste. "It was a poor choice of material. We've got pride in and respect for the Queen," he said.

Another guest at the £50-a-head dinner was Alan Smith, chief executive of the Test and County Cricket Board, who said he was saddened by the incident. "This was the biggest cricket dinner I have ever attended. It was a great occasion but, sadly, this one act let it down."

Organisers of the event were said to be puzzled by England's reaction. Graham Halibut, spokesman for the World Cup organising committee, said it was "a night of fun and frolic". The act was not intended to give offence to anyone. He added: "If dear old Both is a royalist and was upset, then good luck to him."

Ian McDonald, the Australian Cricket Board media manager, said he was amazed. "She is our Queen, too, and all I can think is that it is a motivational move for the match."

Bob Hawke, the former Australian prime minister, defended the act last night. "The taking-off of public figures is one of the factors of Australian life. It's part of Australian humour and it does not necessarily mean the object of the exercise is intended to be brought into disrepute."

Elsewhere, supporters of both teams were preparing for last night for the big match which began at 4.30 am GMT and could continue until 12.30 pm.

Millions dragged themselves up in the early hours to watch John Major was one of those whose call came early. Thousands of satellite dishes were installed at the last minute and champagne parties organised in pubs, cricket clubs and homes. More than 100 members of the Gymkhana Cricket Club in Bradford, West Yorkshire, sat down to a special pre-match curry dinner at midnight.

Up to 300 stockbrokers, bankers and office workers were expected at the Pavilion End pub in the City of London to watch the final and eat a choice of full English or continental breakfast along with smoked salmon bagels, the latest breakfast fad in the Square Mile.

Match scorecard, page 30

Cloudy with outbreaks of rain in Scotland and Northern Ireland with brighter intervals in sheltered eastern parts. England and Wales will start cloudy in northern parts, with outbreaks of rain spreading southeastwards in the morning. Central and southern areas will be dry and bright with rain arriving later in the day. Windy and less cold than yesterday. Outlook: becoming colder with blustery showers, turning wintry in places.

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
Angelsey	6.2	0.05	48	showers		
Aberdeen	2.8	0.05	48	showers		
Bath	7.1	0.05	48	showers		
Birmingham	8.3	0.01	48	thunder		
Bognor Regis	8.3	0.10	48	thunder		
Bournemouth	2.8	0.05	48	showers		
Buxton	2.7	0.05	48	showers		
Clacton	2.5	0.12	48	showers		
Coventry	5.3	0.05	48	showers		
Douglas	4.3	0.10	48	showers		
Eastbourne	4.2	0.05	48	showers		
Edinburgh	2.4	0.13	48	showers		
Falmouth	2.4	0.13	48	showers		
Glasgow	3.1	0.05	48	showers		
Gwynedd	5.7	0.13	48	showers		
Hastings	3.7	0.05	48	showers		
Jersey	0.2	0.05	48	showers		
Kinloss	0.2	0.05	48	showers		
Leeds	2.8	0.05	48	showers		
Liverpool	6.3	0.16	48	showers		
London	3.2	0.07	48	showers		
London	3.2	0.07	48	showers		
Manchester	8.3	0.21	48	showers		
Minchfield	2.6	0.02	48	showers		
Newcastle	5.8	0.05	48	showers		
Nottingham	1.2	0.05	48	showers		
Penzance	5.0	0.10	48	showers		
Plymouth	5.0	0.10	48	showers		
Portsmouth	7.4	0.05	48	showers		
Sandown	5.4	0.05	48	showers		
Scarborough	5.4	0.05	48	showers		
Salisbury	5.4	0.05	48	showers		
South Wales	6.1	0.05	48	showers		
Southern	2.4	0.05	48	showers		
Stornoway	1.5	0.31	48	showers		
Torquay	5.7	0.05	48	showers		
Toronto	1.7	0.05	48	showers		
Torquay	5.7	0.05	48	showers		
Toronto	1.7	0.05	48	showers		
Toronto	1.7	0.05	48	showers		
Toronto	1.7	0.05</td				

TODAY IN
BUSINESS

POLE POSITION



Official figures may suggest otherwise, but Vauxhall is on the verge of overtaking Ford as Britain's biggest new car manufacturer, ending a 15-year sequence

Page 21

POOR IMAGE

Antony Stoddard quit as chief executive of Shandwick, the public relations group that lost £1.4 million last year

Page 18

WATER AND WINE



Giovanni Agnelli walks away with FFr2.6 billion and the Château Margaux vineyards as Nestlé takes control of Perrier

Page 19

DEFENCE COSTS

Invergordon Distillers incurred costs of £4.2 million in its successful fight against a takeover bid by Whyte & Mackay

Page 19

MOVE UP MARKET



The Halifax lost market share but increased profits by 6 per cent to £628 million, even though bad debts cost £229 million

Page 18

THE POUND

US dollar	1.7188 (-0.0015)
German mark	2.8635 (-0.0011)
Exchange index	90.0 (same)
Bank of England official close (4pm)	
STOCK MARKET	

FT 30 share	1962.2 (+15.4)
FT-SE 100	2458.7 (+17.7)
New York Dow Jones	3273.26 (+1.12*)
Tokyo Nikkei Avg	19891.57 (-348.03)
INTEREST RATES	

London: Bank Base: 10%*	
3-month deposit: 10%*	
3-month eligible bills: 10%*	
US Prime Rate: 6.5%	
Federal Funds: 3.125%	
3-month Treasury Bills: 4.06-4.05%	
30-year bonds: 9.95-10.0%	

CURRENCIES	
London: New York:	
£ 1.7194	\$ 2.0707
£ 1.7192	\$ 2.0705
£ 1.7193	\$ 2.0706
£ 1.7194	\$ 2.0707
£ 1.7195	\$ 2.0708
£ 1.7196	\$ 2.0709
£ 1.7197	\$ 2.0710
£ 1.7198	\$ 2.0711
£ 1.7199	\$ 2.0712
£ 1.7200	\$ 2.0713
£ 1.7201	\$ 2.0714
£ 1.7202	\$ 2.0715
£ 1.7203	\$ 2.0716
£ 1.7204	\$ 2.0717
£ 1.7205	\$ 2.0718
£ 1.7206	\$ 2.0719
£ 1.7207	\$ 2.0720
£ 1.7208	\$ 2.0721
£ 1.7209	\$ 2.0722
£ 1.7210	\$ 2.0723
£ 1.7211	\$ 2.0724
£ 1.7212	\$ 2.0725
£ 1.7213	\$ 2.0726
£ 1.7214	\$ 2.0727
£ 1.7215	\$ 2.0728
£ 1.7216	\$ 2.0729
£ 1.7217	\$ 2.0730
£ 1.7218	\$ 2.0731
£ 1.7219	\$ 2.0732
£ 1.7220	\$ 2.0733
£ 1.7221	\$ 2.0734
£ 1.7222	\$ 2.0735
£ 1.7223	\$ 2.0736
£ 1.7224	\$ 2.0737
£ 1.7225	\$ 2.0738
£ 1.7226	\$ 2.0739
£ 1.7227	\$ 2.0740
£ 1.7228	\$ 2.0741
£ 1.7229	\$ 2.0742
£ 1.7230	\$ 2.0743
£ 1.7231	\$ 2.0744
£ 1.7232	\$ 2.0745
£ 1.7233	\$ 2.0746
£ 1.7234	\$ 2.0747
£ 1.7235	\$ 2.0748
£ 1.7236	\$ 2.0749
£ 1.7237	\$ 2.0750
£ 1.7238	\$ 2.0751
£ 1.7239	\$ 2.0752
£ 1.7240	\$ 2.0753
£ 1.7241	\$ 2.0754
£ 1.7242	\$ 2.0755
£ 1.7243	\$ 2.0756
£ 1.7244	\$ 2.0757
£ 1.7245	\$ 2.0758
£ 1.7246	\$ 2.0759
£ 1.7247	\$ 2.0760
£ 1.7248	\$ 2.0761
£ 1.7249	\$ 2.0762
£ 1.7250	\$ 2.0763
£ 1.7251	\$ 2.0764
£ 1.7252	\$ 2.0765
£ 1.7253	\$ 2.0766
£ 1.7254	\$ 2.0767
£ 1.7255	\$ 2.0768
£ 1.7256	\$ 2.0769
£ 1.7257	\$ 2.0770
£ 1.7258	\$ 2.0771
£ 1.7259	\$ 2.0772
£ 1.7260	\$ 2.0773
£ 1.7261	\$ 2.0774
£ 1.7262	\$ 2.0775
£ 1.7263	\$ 2.0776
£ 1.7264	\$ 2.0777
£ 1.7265	\$ 2.0778
£ 1.7266	\$ 2.0779
£ 1.7267	\$ 2.0780
£ 1.7268	\$ 2.0781
£ 1.7269	\$ 2.0782
£ 1.7270	\$ 2.0783
£ 1.7271	\$ 2.0784
£ 1.7272	\$ 2.0785
£ 1.7273	\$ 2.0786
£ 1.7274	\$ 2.0787
£ 1.7275	\$ 2.0788
£ 1.7276	\$ 2.0789
£ 1.7277	\$ 2.0790
£ 1.7278	\$ 2.0791
£ 1.7279	\$ 2.0792
£ 1.7280	\$ 2.0793
£ 1.7281	\$ 2.0794
£ 1.7282	\$ 2.0795
£ 1.7283	\$ 2.0796
£ 1.7284	\$ 2.0797
£ 1.7285	\$ 2.0798
£ 1.7286	\$ 2.0799
£ 1.7287	\$ 2.0800
£ 1.7288	\$ 2.0801
£ 1.7289	\$ 2.0802
£ 1.7290	\$ 2.0803
£ 1.7291	\$ 2.0804
£ 1.7292	\$ 2.0805
£ 1.7293	\$ 2.0806
£ 1.7294	\$ 2.0807
£ 1.7295	\$ 2.0808
£ 1.7296	\$ 2.0809
£ 1.7297	\$ 2.0810
£ 1.7298	\$ 2.0811
£ 1.7299	\$ 2.0812
£ 1.7300	\$ 2.0813
£ 1.7301	\$ 2.0814
£ 1.7302	\$ 2.0815
£ 1.7303	\$ 2.0816
£ 1.7304	\$ 2.0817
£ 1.7305	\$ 2.0818
£ 1.7306	\$ 2.0819
£ 1.7307	\$ 2.0820
£ 1.7308	\$ 2.0821
£ 1.7309	\$ 2.0822
£ 1.7310	\$ 2.0823
£ 1.7311	\$ 2.0824
£ 1.7312	\$ 2.0825
£ 1.7313	\$ 2.0826
£ 1.7314	\$ 2.0827
£ 1.7315	\$ 2.0828
£ 1.7316	\$ 2.0829
£ 1.7317	\$ 2.0830
£ 1.7318	\$ 2.0831
£ 1.7319	\$ 2.0832
£ 1.7320	\$ 2.0833
£ 1.7321	\$ 2.0834
£ 1.7322	\$ 2.0835
£ 1.7323	\$ 2.0836
£ 1.7324	\$ 2.0837
£ 1.7325	\$ 2.0838
£ 1.7326	\$ 2.0839
£ 1.7327	\$ 2.0840
£ 1.7328	\$ 2.0841
£ 1.7329	\$ 2.0842
£ 1.7330	\$ 2.0843
£ 1.7331	\$ 2.0844
£ 1.7332	\$ 2.0845
£ 1.7333	\$ 2.0846
£ 1.7334	\$ 2.0847
£ 1.7335	\$ 2.0848
£ 1.7336	\$ 2.0849
£ 1.7337	\$ 2.0850
£ 1.7338	\$ 2.0851
£ 1.7339	\$ 2.0852
£ 1.7340	\$ 2.0853
£ 1.7341	\$ 2.0854
£ 1.7342	\$ 2.0855
£ 1.7343	\$ 2.0856
£ 1.7344	\$ 2.0857
£ 1.7345	\$ 2.0858
£ 1.7346	\$ 2.0859
£ 1.7347	\$ 2.0860
£ 1.7348	\$ 2.0861
£ 1.7349	\$ 2.0862
£ 1.7350	\$ 2.0863
£ 1.7351	\$ 2.0864
£ 1.7352	\$ 2.0865
£ 1.7353	\$ 2.0866
£ 1.7354	\$ 2.0867
£ 1.7355	\$ 2.0868
£ 1.7356	\$ 2.0869
£ 1.7357	\$ 2.0870
£ 1.7358	\$ 2.0871
£ 1.7359	\$ 2.0872
£ 1.7360	\$ 2.0873
£ 1.7361	\$ 2.0874
£ 1.7362	\$ 2.0875
£ 1.7363	\$ 2.0876
£ 1.7364	\$ 2.0877
£ 1.7365	\$ 2.0878
£ 1.7366	\$ 2.0879
£ 1.7367	\$ 2.0880
£ 1.7368	\$ 2.0881
£ 1.7369	\$ 2.0882
£ 1.7370	\$ 2.0883
£ 1.73	

Geest to sell its stake in Macfish

BY JONATHAN PRYNN

THE future of the troubled British fish-processing industry was thrown into uncertainty yesterday when Geest, the fresh food group, announced that it is to dispose of its 50 per cent stake in Macfish, its fish-processing joint venture with Associated Fisheries.

David Sugden, the chief executive of Geest, said the decision had been made in the light of continuing problems with fish supplies caused by overfishing.

He said that Geest could not justify the necessary investment in the subsidiary given its heavy capital expenditure programmes for its core fresh fruit and prepared food operations.

Geest entered fish processing in 1987 and merged its fish interests with Associated Fisheries in 1990. Macfish made a marginal profit last year, Mr Sugden said, compared with heavy losses in the late Eighties.

Geest has provided £5.25 million below the line against the cost of withdrawal from the sector in its 1991 accounts.

A statement from the company said that it intended to seek "an orderly route to withdraw from its investment in Macfish". But it added that "no firm decisions have been taken as to the timing or nature of this withdrawal".

Associated Fisheries said that it might also be forced to withdraw from Macfish as a result of Geest's decision. It is to make an extraordinary provision of £5.5 million against its 1991 profits and loss account, which is due to be published on April 2.

Geest's pre-tax profits for the year to December 28 rose by 6 per cent to £26.2 million on turnover up by 5 per cent at £626 million. A final 4.3p dividend makes 7.9p on a year, a 13 per cent increase.

The strongest performer was the food preparation division, which increased trading profits from £3.87 million to £5.4 million.

Geest said that its project to set up its own banana plantation in Costa Rica was on schedule and on budget and was expected to be in production by early 1993.

The company added that the difficult economic conditions that it encountered last year had persisted in 1992 and that there was no immediate sign of an upturn in its main markets.

Bad debts fail to halt a 6% rise at Halifax

BY LINDSAY COOK, MONEY EDITOR

HALIFAX Building Society increased its pre-tax profits 6 per cent to £628 million in the year to end-January despite provisions for bad debts of £229 million.

The largest mortgage lender lost market share as net advances fell 26 per cent to £3.9 billion last year. The Abbey National lent £3.7 billion. Halifax now has 14 per cent of the total mortgage market, against 16 per cent in 1990, and its retail receipts fell to £4.6 billion (£5.2 billion).

Arrears and repossessions were now falling, having peaked in November, said Jon Foulds, chairman of Halifax. The number of properties held by the society had fallen every month since November as had the number of new properties being reposessed said Mr Foulds.

Of mortgage rescue schemes, he added: "Far more people will be helped by our own efforts to keep them as borrowers than by converting them to tenants. Better counselling, shared ownership schemes and the very important direct payment of DSS benefit will all keep down the number of repossession."

The society allocated an extra £100,000 to counselling

last year and will spend another £350,000 this year. A provision of £191 million was made for residential mortgages, £16 million for other advances secured on land and £22 million for unsecured loans last year. Halifax has now made provisions of more than 13p for every pound lent as unsecured loans, but Mr Foulds said it intended to stick with the business now it had learned how to handle such loans.

The estate agency operating loss fell from £18.3 million to £6.6 million. The cost/income ratio was reduced to 43.6 per cent (48.5 per cent). The society's gross capital ratio improved from 5.09 per cent to 5.65 per cent and free capital increased from 4.25 per cent to 4.86 per cent. Assets grew 8.4 per cent to £58.7 billion.

Building societies made net mortgage commitments of £2.7 billion in February — an increase of 20 per cent on January. The figure was still lower than February last year, when bad weather and the Gulf war affected the mortgage market. Gross lending, at £2.4 billion, was down on both the January figure and a year ago. Savings fell to £145 million from £293 million in January.



Traumatic turnaround: Peter Gummer, who announced Shandwick's loss

Shares at Kwik Save and Hillsdown slip

BY OUR CITY STAFF

KWIK Save, the discount supermarket group, and Hillsdown Holdings, the food-processing group run by Sir Harry Solomon, saw their shares fall yesterday after the resignations of their finance directors.

Simon Moffat, Kwik Save's group finance director, has stepped down less than five weeks before the company unveils its interim results. He moves to Hillsdown to take over as finance director from Kevin O'Sullivan. The City reacted coldly to the news.

COMPANY BRIEFS

AMBER DAY (Int)
Pre-tax: £7.1m (£5.25m)
EPS: 3.81p (3.72p)
Div: 1.1p (0.9p)

DERWENT VALLEY (Fin)
Pre-tax: £821,000
EPS: 6.1p (LPS: 5.5p)
Div: 5.7p, mkg 8.6p

EBC GROUP (Fin)
Pre-tax: £2.04m (£3.51m)
EPS: 12.17p (18.99p)
Div: 4.5p, mkg 8p (8p)

TAY HOMES (Int)
Pre-tax: £1.82m (£2.13m)
EPS: 5.5p (6.5p)
Div: 1.2p (1.2p)

CUSSINS PROPERTY
Pre-tax: Loss £365,000
LPS: 1.8p (£6.3p)
Div: Nil (nil)

SUNSET & VINE (Int)
Pre-tax: £363,000
EPS: 4.6p (3.0p)
Div: 1.5p (1.5p)

ARAN ENERGY (Fin)
Pre-tax: £5,000
LPS: 0.14p (EPS: 0.09p)
Div: Nil (nil)

WORCESTER GROUP
Pre-tax: £4.52m (£3.55m)
EPS: 10.4p (9.4p)
Div: 2.88p, mkg 4.21p

COLORGRAPHIC (Fin)
Pre-tax: Loss £2.33m
LPS: 12.45p (EPS: 9.09p)
Div: 0.01p, mkg 0.01p

BARR & W. ARNOLD TST.
Pre-tax: £4.31m (£4.51m)
EPS: 20.7p (22.8p)
Div: 7p, mkg 10p (8.75p)

PENDRAGON (Fin)
Pre-tax: £4.73m (£5.07m)
EPS: 12.1p (15.1p)
Div: 4p, mkg 6p (5.4p)

BREDDERO PROPERTIES
Pre-tax: Loss £4.5m
LPS: 13.1p (EPS: 4.3p)
Div: Nil, mkg nil (2.4p)

MALLETT (Fin)
Pre-tax: £1.12m (£3.66m)
EPS: 5.96p (17.27p)
Div: 3p, mkg 4.5p (6p)

Turnover rose to £47.7m (£44.4m), with further gains expected over remainder of year. There was a £4.48m extraordinary charge.

Last time's loss was £335,000. Last time's total dividend was 8.25p. The net asset value fell to 744p (937p) per share.

Turnover fell to £60m (£65.2m). There was an exceptional charge of £885,000. The net asset value slipped to 133p (135p) per share.

Turnover rose to £22.5m (£24.1m). Dwelling sales up 17% to 357. Land bank rose to 4,250 plots, giving over four years' supply.

Final results. Last time's loss was £24.04m. There was a £2.36m extraordinary debt. Turnover fell to £18.4m (£21.8m). NAV: 54p.

Last time's profit was £246,000. Turnover rose to £2.46m (£1.88m). Group developing sponsorship agreements with multinationals.

All figures are in Irish currency. Last time's profit was £121,000. Revolving credit and standby facility totalling £197.5m arranged.

Final results. Last time's total dividend was 4.01p. Turnover advanced to £65.2m (£44m). Gearing down by a third to 40%.

Last time's profit was £2.01m. Last time's total dividend was 8.86p. Exceptional debit of £1.1m and £181,000 extraordinary loss.

Final results. Turnover slipped to £229m (£238m). There was an extraordinary debit of £147,000. Gearing down to 32.4% (55.3%).

Turnover fell to £168m (£174m). Decline in new car sales affected profits, but strong performance in after-sales and used cars.

Final results. Last time's profit was £1.58m. There was a £6.52m exceptional loss. The net asset value slipped to £1.96 (£2.19).

Turnover fell to £28.99m (£24.6m). There was an exceptional credit of £660,000. Return to previous profit levels will take time.

Shares languish as Gummer confirms worst

Shandwick storm brings losses and resignation

BY JON ASHWORTH

JUST before Christmas, Peter Gummer, chairman of Shandwick, the world's biggest public relations company, gave warning of inclement weather ahead. The storm broke with a vengeance yesterday, when pre-tax losses of £1.4 million for the 15 months to last October were reported and Antony Stoddard, the chief executive, announced his resignation.

The loss, a dramatic drop

from a £21 million pre-tax profit last time, is even worse than Mr Gummer predicted in December. Then, his warning of an expected £1 million loss left the City reeling and cut Shandwick's share price in half. The shares tumbled from 125p to 52½p, and are now languishing at 25p.

Mr Gummer, whose brother, John, is agriculture minister, does not expect business to pick up this year, but feels he has done all he can to get the company in shape.

Mr Stoddard is leaving Shandwick as part of a management reshuffle. However, he will stay on as a

consultant for the next 12 months.

A report by Ernst & Young, the accountant, shows Shandwick's underlying business is sound, and that improvement is just a matter of time. Fee income at £122 million has remained largely constant, despite a poor showing in America, which accounts for 50 per cent of the group's operating revenue.

In December, Mr Gummer said: "We are clearing the decks for some fairly rough weather. This will enable us to go forward confidently through the economic difficulties which lie ahead."

After expanding rapidly during the Eighties, Shandwick now faces the difficult task of cutting jobs. Redundancies have cost £5.4 million, with staff numbers falling from 2,150 last year to 1,960.

The company revealed in December that "several million pounds had been wasted through chasing business with international clients that came to nothing. The amounts were re-

vealed yesterday: £2.8 million on marketing and other costs associated with delay or cancellation of potential contracts, and £1.1 million in respect of abortive acquisitions and joint ventures.

Shandwick faces another £3 million bill this year in interest and fees to its banks and financial advisers. The final dividend has been cut from an expected 2.36p to just 1.15p, making 3.54p for the 15 months.

If December was a bad month, January was even worse. Just three weeks after Mr Gummer broke the bad news to a petulant City,

Shandwick parted company with Morgan Grefeau, its merchant bank, and SG Warburg Securities, its stockbroker, after a six-year association.

The manner of the parting did little to calm shareholders' nerves. Both sides insisted that they had initiated the break.

Lazard Brothers and Barclays de Zoete Wedd were subsequently appointed as the new advisers to Shandwick.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Laporte unwinds its venture with Solvay

LAPORTE, the chemicals group, has unwound its joint venture arrangement with Belgium's Solvay in a move that improves gearing and allows Laporte to control its own destiny. Laporte will exchange its half interest in hydrogen peroxide businesses that are jointly owned with Solvay through the Interrox venture for full ownership of the specialty peroxy chemicals businesses. Solvay will no longer be a 25 per cent shareholder in Laporte after part of its holding is cancelled and the rest of the stake placed among institutions. Laporte announced yesterday that it was buying Rockwood, an American private company that has processing operations on the East and West coasts of America, for \$60 million. Pre-tax profits of Laporte in the year ended December 29 eased from £103 million to £97.2 million on a turnover of £615.5 million (£649.3 million). The final dividend rises to 12.1p (11.4p) a share, making 18.9p (17.8p) a share for the year.

Tempus, page 20

UK liquidity improves

THE financial health of Britain's large companies has improved to close to the level seen in the third quarter of 1987, the quartet of stock market crash government figures show. The improvement, confirmed in the company liquidity data to the end of the fourth quarter last year, suggests the corporate sector is well placed to take advantage of any economic recovery. The liquidity ratio expresses assets as a ratio of current liabilities. The ratio for all large industrial and commercial companies was 124 in the final quarter of 1991, up from 118 in the previous quarter.

Brake raises payout

BRAKE Bros, the expanding frozen foods group, largely withstood the effects of recession and the disruption caused by a fire at Hemsworth, Yorkshire, in the year ended December. Pre-tax profits rose from £14.9 million to £15.4 million. Sales advanced 14.1 per cent to £223 million, or by 7.3 per cent after excluding acquisitions, and the final dividend rises from 3.75p to 4.1p a share, making 5.75p (5.25p) for the year. Brake spent £12.8 million on capital expenditure, excluding acquisitions, which included £2.6 million associated with cold stores and central distribution facilities in Somerset and Hertfordshire.

Esso profits advance

SOFT oil prices and pressure on costs constrained Esso UK's pre-tax profits and royalties to £635 million, up 15.9 per cent. Esso's share of North Sea oil output surged 23 per cent during calendar 1991, and gas production rose 31 per cent. That helped lift revenues, including sales at filling stations, by 9.9 per cent to £6.22 billion. Profits after tax and royalties rose by just 7.7 million to £310 million. Sir Archibald Forster, chairman and chief executive, said the 8.5 per cent return on assets was unsatisfactory but capital spending during 1992 would exceed 1991's £600 million.

Deadline for banks

SIR Leon Brittan, the EC competition commissioner, will today tell banks that they should have cross-border electronic transfer networks installed by 1996. Sir Leon, whose users charter for small businesses and individuals using banks became known last week, believes that banks can be forced to lower their transaction charges by market forces rather than legislation. Today he will outline the right for a redress procedure against banks for clients not given full advice on transfer charges. He wants an end to double charging, where both the sending and receiving banks get payment.

Epwin in cash call

EPWIN Group, the USM-quoted maker of uPVC windows and double glazing products, is making a one-for-four rights issue at 145p per share to raise £5.4 million. Proceeds will be used to fund expansion. Epwin also announced a 17 per cent fall in pre-tax profits to £2.91 million to end-December, on turnover down 15.6 per cent to £40.3 million. A higher 4.5p final (4.3p), brings an improved total of 6.6p (6.4p).

Property disposal

ASDA Property Holdings, the residential and commercial property group run by Manny Davidson, has sold a portfolio of rented residential property to Bradford Property Trust, which is one of Britain's biggest residential landlords. The proceeds of the £38 million sale will be used to reduce Asda's borrowings and should enable it to pursue its recent policy of adding to its commercial portfolio. The homes are all in the South-East of England where Bradford has about 80 per cent of its 7,000 properties.

Bridon goes into red

BRIDON is halving its annual dividend after slumping into the red in 1991. The wire and rope maker yesterday reported pre-tax losses of £3.6 million, compared with profits of £10.1 million in the previous 12 months, leaving a deficit of 6.4p a share, against earnings of 14.3p. The final dividend is reduced from 5.5p a share to 1.5p, making 4p for the year, compared with 8p last time.

British Steel falls 5p as institutions sell



shares outperforming the rest of the market by about 9 per cent in the past month.

Meanwhile, a better showing by the Conservatives in the opinion polls cheered the City and enabled share prices to make an encouraging rally. Some institutions have taken the view that the recent losses have been overdone and so the bargain-hunters were out in force. The FTSE 100 index closed just below its best of the day after a hesitant start to trading on Wall Street. It ended 17.7 points up at 2,458.7 with almost 500 million shares changing hands.

Government securities made modest headway, with gains of 4% at the longer end, as investors continued switching from the other European bond markets.

Among the leaders, Glaxo jumped 32p to 814p as one New York securities house began urging its clients to switch from the SmithKline Beecham units, down 20p at £30.20.

Warburg Securities believed to be a big buyer of Kingfisher, up 14p at 480p. The shares have depressed recently by a series of profit downgrades from several leading firms. Ranks Hovis

in Wessex, up 12p to 387p, as County NatWest WoodMac, the broker, recommended the shares to its clients. There were also

gains for Anglia, 6p to 332p, Northumbrian, 2p to 366p, North West, 1p to 339p, Severn Trent, 3p to 321p, South West, 3p to 334p, Thames, 6p to 342p, Welsh, 5p to 353p. The City breathed a sigh of relief at P&O's decision to maintain the dividend despite a drop in its full-year pre-tax profits from £261.3 million to £217.4 million.

The figures were at the top end of expectations and were struck after an exceptional charge of £20 million was made relating to the impact of the Gulf war on its cruise operations. The group has also decided to unravel Pall Mall, its joint property venture, with Cheshire, the privately owned developer, which was put together to handle the acquisition of Laing Properties a few years back. The shares responded with a rise of 32p to 416p, after touching 425p.

DAY MARCH 25
38 ROUNDUP
winds its
with Solvay
ity improves
ses payout
its advance
for banks
cash call
disposal
es into red
ns sell

Bid win raises competition doubts EC to investigate Perrier takeover after Nestlé victory

BY WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU, EUROPEAN BUSINESS CORRESPONDENT

THE European Commission is to launch a full enquiry into Nestlé's takeover of Perrier, after the Swiss food group and Banque Indofoz won control of the French water group with an increased bid of Fr15.3 billion.

Reto Domeniconi, finance director of Nestlé, told a press conference in Paris that the commission would announce its investigation this week. Shares in Perrier will be suspended during the enquiry, which is expected to focus on competition in the mineral waters market, of which Nestlé and BSN, the French food group, gain a greater share through the deal.

The EC enquiry will also try to disentangle cordial aspects of the deal, such as compensation payments paid to certain shareholders. It is highly unusual for the companies involved, rather than the commission, to announce an investigation. Under EC rules, the commission can take up to four months to investigate a deal.

News of the enquiry followed confirmation of a negotiated peace settlement between the two main protagonists, Nestlé, where Helmut Maucher is president, and the Agnelli family of Italy, under which the Swiss group will take control of Perrier. BSN, will buy Volvic, a Perrier mineral water brand.

The Agnellis have made a substantial profit on their investment, estimated to be about Fr2.6 billion. They will also retain control of Exor, although that group, after its acceptance to sell its 35.5 per cent Perrier stake to Nestlé, will only have some Paris properties worth about Fr4 billion, and the Château Margaux vineyards.

Nestlé yesterday raised its original offer of Fr1.475 for each Perrier share to Fr1.700. That bid is one of four to have resulted from the overall battle: Exor, Perrier's



Maucher: peace deal

Third year loss for estate agent

BY MATTHEW BOND

HAMBRO Countrywide, the quoted estate agent, has reported a third successive year of losses. In 1991 the company made a pre-tax loss of £6.5 million, considerably larger than the £1 million lost in 1990 but smaller than the £10.5 million deficit rung up in 1989.

The increased losses arise despite an increase in the number of houses sold, the number of mortgages arranged and the number of life policies sold by the group. Completed house sales rose 7.8 per cent to 40,407, while the number of mortgages went up 9.2 per cent to 16,538. The number of life policies rose 4.5 per cent to 19,685.

Christopher Sporborg, chairman, said: "We continue to make strenuous efforts to control costs, invest in strategic developments and in training to improve our core operations."

Mr Sporborg said the group's current policy was cost control rather than wholesale closure of offices. In fact, right at the end of

main shareholder, bid for Perrier. Ifint, one of the Agnelli family vehicles, bid for Exor; and BSN also bid for Exor. Under the new deal, Exor is dropping its bid for Perrier and accepts Nestlé's tender offer. BSN and Ifint

have also come to an agreement over Exor. They will make a joint Fr1.450 bid for Exor, but BSN will grant the first right of refusal to Ifint if BSN decides to sell any Perrier shares.

The precise settlement, however, is much more complicated: Ifint, which owns 39.8 per cent of Exor, will pay for, in full, the first 51 per cent of shares tendered, while the remaining shares tender

will be split between Ifint and BSN on the basis of nine-to-one. This means that Ifint

will emerge as the controlling shareholder of Exor.

Despite the substantial profits, the outcome of what has turned out to be the most complicated Continental bid battle ever, still amounts to setback for the Agnelli family and its attempts to build a strong position in France's profitable food and drinks market. After becoming France's largest foreign investor last year, the Agnellis have been caught out by their own strategy, that of buying into

A "friendly" settlement became the most likely outcome of the takeover bid after a series of court rulings left the Agnellis with their backs to the wall. Nestlé's only hope of winning control of Perrier was to persuade two French commercial courts to cancel or suspend various shareholdings that the Italians and their allies had built up as part of their strategy.

In February, a commercial court in Nîmes suspended one third of Exor's 35.5 per cent holding in Perrier on the grounds that Exor breached takeover rules when it failed to declare an increase in its Perrier stake beyond 33 per cent, the level at which French takeover rules require a predator to make a bid for two thirds of the capital.

In February, a commercial court in Nîmes suspended one third of Exor's 35.5 per cent holding in Perrier on the grounds that Exor breached takeover rules when it failed to declare an increase in its Perrier stake beyond 33 per cent, the level at which French takeover rules require a predator to make a bid for two thirds of the capital.

In February, a commercial court in Nîmes suspended one third of Exor's 35.5 per cent holding in Perrier on the grounds that Exor breached takeover rules when it failed to declare an increase in its Perrier stake beyond 33 per cent, the level at which French takeover rules require a predator to make a bid for two thirds of the capital.

In February, a commercial court in Nîmes suspended one third of Exor's 35.5 per cent holding in Perrier on the grounds that Exor breached takeover rules when it failed to declare an increase in its Perrier stake beyond 33 per cent, the level at which French takeover rules require a predator to make a bid for two thirds of the capital.

In February, a commercial court in Nîmes suspended one third of Exor's 35.5 per cent holding in Perrier on the grounds that Exor breached takeover rules when it failed to declare an increase in its Perrier stake beyond 33 per cent, the level at which French takeover rules require a predator to make a bid for two thirds of the capital.

In February, a commercial court in Nîmes suspended one third of Exor's 35.5 per cent holding in Perrier on the grounds that Exor breached takeover rules when it failed to declare an increase in its Perrier stake beyond 33 per cent, the level at which French takeover rules require a predator to make a bid for two thirds of the capital.

In February, a commercial court in Nîmes suspended one third of Exor's 35.5 per cent holding in Perrier on the grounds that Exor breached takeover rules when it failed to declare an increase in its Perrier stake beyond 33 per cent, the level at which French takeover rules require a predator to make a bid for two thirds of the capital.

In February, a commercial court in Nîmes suspended one third of Exor's 35.5 per cent holding in Perrier on the grounds that Exor breached takeover rules when it failed to declare an increase in its Perrier stake beyond 33 per cent, the level at which French takeover rules require a predator to make a bid for two thirds of the capital.

In February, a commercial court in Nîmes suspended one third of Exor's 35.5 per cent holding in Perrier on the grounds that Exor breached takeover rules when it failed to declare an increase in its Perrier stake beyond 33 per cent, the level at which French takeover rules require a predator to make a bid for two thirds of the capital.

In February, a commercial court in Nîmes suspended one third of Exor's 35.5 per cent holding in Perrier on the grounds that Exor breached takeover rules when it failed to declare an increase in its Perrier stake beyond 33 per cent, the level at which French takeover rules require a predator to make a bid for two thirds of the capital.

In February, a commercial court in Nîmes suspended one third of Exor's 35.5 per cent holding in Perrier on the grounds that Exor breached takeover rules when it failed to declare an increase in its Perrier stake beyond 33 per cent, the level at which French takeover rules require a predator to make a bid for two thirds of the capital.

In February, a commercial court in Nîmes suspended one third of Exor's 35.5 per cent holding in Perrier on the grounds that Exor breached takeover rules when it failed to declare an increase in its Perrier stake beyond 33 per cent, the level at which French takeover rules require a predator to make a bid for two thirds of the capital.

In February, a commercial court in Nîmes suspended one third of Exor's 35.5 per cent holding in Perrier on the grounds that Exor breached takeover rules when it failed to declare an increase in its Perrier stake beyond 33 per cent, the level at which French takeover rules require a predator to make a bid for two thirds of the capital.

In February, a commercial court in Nîmes suspended one third of Exor's 35.5 per cent holding in Perrier on the grounds that Exor breached takeover rules when it failed to declare an increase in its Perrier stake beyond 33 per cent, the level at which French takeover rules require a predator to make a bid for two thirds of the capital.

In February, a commercial court in Nîmes suspended one third of Exor's 35.5 per cent holding in Perrier on the grounds that Exor breached takeover rules when it failed to declare an increase in its Perrier stake beyond 33 per cent, the level at which French takeover rules require a predator to make a bid for two thirds of the capital.

In February, a commercial court in Nîmes suspended one third of Exor's 35.5 per cent holding in Perrier on the grounds that Exor breached takeover rules when it failed to declare an increase in its Perrier stake beyond 33 per cent, the level at which French takeover rules require a predator to make a bid for two thirds of the capital.

In February, a commercial court in Nîmes suspended one third of Exor's 35.5 per cent holding in Perrier on the grounds that Exor breached takeover rules when it failed to declare an increase in its Perrier stake beyond 33 per cent, the level at which French takeover rules require a predator to make a bid for two thirds of the capital.

In February, a commercial court in Nîmes suspended one third of Exor's 35.5 per cent holding in Perrier on the grounds that Exor breached takeover rules when it failed to declare an increase in its Perrier stake beyond 33 per cent, the level at which French takeover rules require a predator to make a bid for two thirds of the capital.

In February, a commercial court in Nîmes suspended one third of Exor's 35.5 per cent holding in Perrier on the grounds that Exor breached takeover rules when it failed to declare an increase in its Perrier stake beyond 33 per cent, the level at which French takeover rules require a predator to make a bid for two thirds of the capital.

In February, a commercial court in Nîmes suspended one third of Exor's 35.5 per cent holding in Perrier on the grounds that Exor breached takeover rules when it failed to declare an increase in its Perrier stake beyond 33 per cent, the level at which French takeover rules require a predator to make a bid for two thirds of the capital.

In February, a commercial court in Nîmes suspended one third of Exor's 35.5 per cent holding in Perrier on the grounds that Exor breached takeover rules when it failed to declare an increase in its Perrier stake beyond 33 per cent, the level at which French takeover rules require a predator to make a bid for two thirds of the capital.

In February, a commercial court in Nîmes suspended one third of Exor's 35.5 per cent holding in Perrier on the grounds that Exor breached takeover rules when it failed to declare an increase in its Perrier stake beyond 33 per cent, the level at which French takeover rules require a predator to make a bid for two thirds of the capital.

In February, a commercial court in Nîmes suspended one third of Exor's 35.5 per cent holding in Perrier on the grounds that Exor breached takeover rules when it failed to declare an increase in its Perrier stake beyond 33 per cent, the level at which French takeover rules require a predator to make a bid for two thirds of the capital.

In February, a commercial court in Nîmes suspended one third of Exor's 35.5 per cent holding in Perrier on the grounds that Exor breached takeover rules when it failed to declare an increase in its Perrier stake beyond 33 per cent, the level at which French takeover rules require a predator to make a bid for two thirds of the capital.

In February, a commercial court in Nîmes suspended one third of Exor's 35.5 per cent holding in Perrier on the grounds that Exor breached takeover rules when it failed to declare an increase in its Perrier stake beyond 33 per cent, the level at which French takeover rules require a predator to make a bid for two thirds of the capital.

In February, a commercial court in Nîmes suspended one third of Exor's 35.5 per cent holding in Perrier on the grounds that Exor breached takeover rules when it failed to declare an increase in its Perrier stake beyond 33 per cent, the level at which French takeover rules require a predator to make a bid for two thirds of the capital.

In February, a commercial court in Nîmes suspended one third of Exor's 35.5 per cent holding in Perrier on the grounds that Exor breached takeover rules when it failed to declare an increase in its Perrier stake beyond 33 per cent, the level at which French takeover rules require a predator to make a bid for two thirds of the capital.

In February, a commercial court in Nîmes suspended one third of Exor's 35.5 per cent holding in Perrier on the grounds that Exor breached takeover rules when it failed to declare an increase in its Perrier stake beyond 33 per cent, the level at which French takeover rules require a predator to make a bid for two thirds of the capital.

In February, a commercial court in Nîmes suspended one third of Exor's 35.5 per cent holding in Perrier on the grounds that Exor breached takeover rules when it failed to declare an increase in its Perrier stake beyond 33 per cent, the level at which French takeover rules require a predator to make a bid for two thirds of the capital.

In February, a commercial court in Nîmes suspended one third of Exor's 35.5 per cent holding in Perrier on the grounds that Exor breached takeover rules when it failed to declare an increase in its Perrier stake beyond 33 per cent, the level at which French takeover rules require a predator to make a bid for two thirds of the capital.

In February, a commercial court in Nîmes suspended one third of Exor's 35.5 per cent holding in Perrier on the grounds that Exor breached takeover rules when it failed to declare an increase in its Perrier stake beyond 33 per cent, the level at which French takeover rules require a predator to make a bid for two thirds of the capital.

In February, a commercial court in Nîmes suspended one third of Exor's 35.5 per cent holding in Perrier on the grounds that Exor breached takeover rules when it failed to declare an increase in its Perrier stake beyond 33 per cent, the level at which French takeover rules require a predator to make a bid for two thirds of the capital.

In February, a commercial court in Nîmes suspended one third of Exor's 35.5 per cent holding in Perrier on the grounds that Exor breached takeover rules when it failed to declare an increase in its Perrier stake beyond 33 per cent, the level at which French takeover rules require a predator to make a bid for two thirds of the capital.

In February, a commercial court in Nîmes suspended one third of Exor's 35.5 per cent holding in Perrier on the grounds that Exor breached takeover rules when it failed to declare an increase in its Perrier stake beyond 33 per cent, the level at which French takeover rules require a predator to make a bid for two thirds of the capital.

In February, a commercial court in Nîmes suspended one third of Exor's 35.5 per cent holding in Perrier on the grounds that Exor breached takeover rules when it failed to declare an increase in its Perrier stake beyond 33 per cent, the level at which French takeover rules require a predator to make a bid for two thirds of the capital.

In February, a commercial court in Nîmes suspended one third of Exor's 35.5 per cent holding in Perrier on the grounds that Exor breached takeover rules when it failed to declare an increase in its Perrier stake beyond 33 per cent, the level at which French takeover rules require a predator to make a bid for two thirds of the capital.

In February, a commercial court in Nîmes suspended one third of Exor's 35.5 per cent holding in Perrier on the grounds that Exor breached takeover rules when it failed to declare an increase in its Perrier stake beyond 33 per cent, the level at which French takeover rules require a predator to make a bid for two thirds of the capital.

In February, a commercial court in Nîmes suspended one third of Exor's 35.5 per cent holding in Perrier on the grounds that Exor breached takeover rules when it failed to declare an increase in its Perrier stake beyond 33 per cent, the level at which French takeover rules require a predator to make a bid for two thirds of the capital.

In February, a commercial court in Nîmes suspended one third of Exor's 35.5 per cent holding in Perrier on the grounds that Exor breached takeover rules when it failed to declare an increase in its Perrier stake beyond 33 per cent, the level at which French takeover rules require a predator to make a bid for two thirds of the capital.

In February, a commercial court in Nîmes suspended one third of Exor's 35.5 per cent holding in Perrier on the grounds that Exor breached takeover rules when it failed to declare an increase in its Perrier stake beyond 33 per cent, the level at which French takeover rules require a predator to make a bid for two thirds of the capital.

In February, a commercial court in Nîmes suspended one third of Exor's 35.5 per cent holding in Perrier on the grounds that Exor breached takeover rules when it failed to declare an increase in its Perrier stake beyond 33 per cent, the level at which French takeover rules require a predator to make a bid for two thirds of the capital.

In February, a commercial court in Nîmes suspended one third of Exor's 35.5 per cent holding in Perrier on the grounds that Exor breached takeover rules when it failed to declare an increase in its Perrier stake beyond 33 per cent, the level at which French takeover rules require a predator to make a bid for two thirds of the capital.

In February, a commercial court in Nîmes suspended one third of Exor's 35.5 per cent holding in Perrier on the grounds that Exor breached takeover rules when it failed to declare an increase in its Perrier stake beyond 33 per cent, the level at which French takeover rules require a predator to make a bid for two thirds of the capital.

In February, a commercial court in Nîmes suspended one third of Exor's 35.5 per cent holding in Perrier on the grounds that Exor breached takeover rules when it failed to declare an increase in its Perrier stake beyond 33 per cent, the level at which French takeover rules require a predator to make a bid for two thirds of the capital.

In February, a commercial court in Nîmes suspended one third of Exor's 35.5 per cent holding in Perrier on the grounds that Exor breached takeover rules when it failed to declare an increase in its Perrier stake beyond 33 per cent, the level at which French takeover rules require a predator to make a bid for two thirds of the capital.

In February, a commercial court in Nîmes suspended one third of Exor's 35.5 per cent holding in Perrier on the grounds that Exor breached takeover rules when it failed to declare an increase in its Perrier stake beyond 33 per cent, the level at which French takeover rules require a predator to make a bid for two thirds of the capital.

In February, a commercial court in Nîmes suspended one third of Exor's 35.5 per cent holding in Perrier on the grounds that Exor breached takeover rules when it failed to declare an increase in its Perrier stake beyond 33 per cent, the level at which French takeover rules require a predator to make a bid for two thirds of the capital.

In February, a commercial court in Nîmes suspended one third of Exor's 35.5 per cent holding in Perrier on the grounds that Exor breached takeover rules when it failed to declare an increase in its Perrier stake beyond 33 per cent, the level at which French takeover rules require a predator to make a bid for two thirds of the capital.

In February, a commercial court in Nîmes suspended one third of Exor's 35.5 per cent holding in Perrier on the grounds that Exor breached takeover rules when it failed to declare an increase in its Perrier stake beyond 33 per cent, the level at which French takeover rules require a predator to make a bid for two thirds of the capital.

In February, a commercial court in Nîmes suspended one third of Exor's 35.5 per cent holding in Perrier on the grounds that Exor breached takeover rules when it failed to declare an increase in its Perrier stake beyond 33 per cent, the level at which French takeover rules require a predator to make a bid for two thirds of the capital.

In February, a commercial court in Nîmes suspended one third of Exor's 35.5 per cent holding in Perrier on the grounds that Exor breached takeover rules when it failed to declare an increase in its Perrier stake beyond 33 per cent, the level at which French takeover rules require a predator to make a bid for two thirds of the capital.

In February, a commercial court in Nîmes suspended one third of Exor's 35.5 per cent holding in Perrier on the grounds that Exor breached takeover rules when it failed to declare an increase in its Perrier stake beyond 33 per cent, the level at which French takeover rules require a predator to make a bid for two thirds of the capital.

In February, a commercial court in Nîmes suspended one third of Exor's 35.5 per cent holding in Perrier on the grounds that Exor breached takeover rules when it failed to declare an increase in its Perrier stake beyond 33 per cent, the level at which French takeover rules require a predator to make a bid for two thirds of the capital.

In February, a commercial court in Nîmes suspended one third of Exor's 35.5 per cent holding in Perrier on the grounds that Exor breached takeover rules when it failed to declare an increase in its Perrier stake beyond 33 per cent, the level at which French takeover rules require a predator to make a bid for two thirds of the capital.

In February, a commercial court in Nîmes suspended one third of Exor's

STANDARD LIFE

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 15.11.91

THE GROUP

Standard Life operates in the United Kingdom, Canada and the Republic of Ireland. Over the year total assets under management increased from £19.3 billion to almost £25 billion spread as follows by country of operation:

COUNTRY	£ billion	Percentage
United Kingdom	19.8	80
Canada	4.3	17
Republic of Ireland	0.7	3
TOTAL:	24.8	100

BONUSES

Investment returns over the year were sufficiently good to enable Standard Life to maintain, and in some cases increase, rates of terminal bonus for with profit policies of long duration, although reductions were again necessary at shorter durations.

Sterling's entry into the Exchange Rate Mechanism seems likely to lead to lower inflation, lower interest rates and consequently lower nominal investment returns than those experienced during the past decade.

For this reason, whilst maintaining reversionary bonus rates for 1991, the Company considered it prudent to reduce rates of interim reversionary bonus, and the equivalent bonus growth rates, on UK with profit policies.

If, as expected, inflation is lower in future, there is no reason to believe that the value in real terms of the proceeds of with profit policies will not be maintained. The Company remains committed to producing returns which will compare as favourably with those offered by competing products in the future as they have consistently done in the past.

Reversionary bonus rates remain unchanged for with profit policies in Canada and the Republic of Ireland.

NEW BUSINESS

In 1991 the Company again achieved record amounts of new business, with total new premiums worldwide exceeding £2 billion for the first time, of which £1.4 billion related to the United Kingdom.

Endowment mortgage business in the UK at last year's level showed encouraging stability, despite the continued depression of the housing market.

Success was also achieved in the UK regular premium savings market with new premiums up by almost 90%. Single premium investment business was only marginally down on last year, despite the decision not to offer with profit bonds.

1991 was another particularly successful year for the Company's Canadian organisation, with total premium income rising by 12% to nearly \$1.2 billion.

Unfavourable economic conditions and adverse investor sentiment led to an overall reduction in new business in the Republic of Ireland. The Company was however able to take full advantage of the expansion in the pensions market which was stimulated by the 1990 Pensions Act.

JOINT VENTURE WITH THE HALIFAX BUILDING SOCIETY

The new joint venture company had a successful first year's operation. Future developments should ensure it builds up a significant presence in the unit trust and PEP market in the UK.

SERVICE

Considerable improvement to service has again been achieved over the past year. Standard Life recognises, however, that it must continue to improve the quality of its service and to focus more on its customers' needs.

To provide a consistently high quality of service a substantial investment in staff training is required. During the year, the Company embarked on a significant new programme, leading to the construction of more comprehensive training plans with encouragement for managers to study for professional qualifications in business management.

INVESTMENT

Most of the world's economies have suffered from the effects of recession in the past year. However, financial markets, anticipating the decline in interest rates and inflation and looking ahead to economic recovery in 1992, have recovered strongly from the depressed levels at the end of 1990. Standard Life's investment performance was very good partly as a result of all funds being fully invested throughout the year.

Unlike the financial markets, the property market did not recover in 1991. The Company believes, however, that the lower prices now prevailing make property an attractive investment over the medium to long term.

In keeping with the Company's general policy, investment on behalf of its with profit policyholders was principally in equities and property.

STANDARD LIFE'S ROLE AS INVESTOR

Standard Life is one of the largest equity



Axis Mundi is sited outside Tanfield House, Edinburgh. The sculpture depicts the ascent of the Five Wise Virgins.

investors in the UK and follows closely the activities of the companies in which it invests. Regular meetings with senior company executives are invaluable in building an understanding of the longer term plans and objectives of these companies and a positive interest is taken in the composition of boards of directors to ensure there is no undue concentration of decision-making powers.

The Company always votes on resolutions at General Meetings and, in takeover situations, makes considered decisions which are in the best interests of its policyholders and investors. In this connection, Standard Life warmly welcomes the recent document issued by the Institutional Shareholders' Committee contributing to the debate on "Corporate Governance".

It also strongly supports the initiatives regarding disclosure that the new Accounting Standards Board is starting to take.

SELF REGULATION

Standard Life welcomes the announcement by the Securities and Investment Board (SIB) last year of a wide-ranging review of retail regulation.

The Company supports SIB's view that polarisation - the drawing of a sharp distinction between independent financial advisors and those employed by or tied to a particular company - is clearly in the interests of the consumer.

Standard Life has been concerned that the existence of several overlapping regulatory organisations is almost bound to lead to confusion, anomaly and excessive expense. It has urged SIB to move towards a single self-regulatory organisation for all retail investment products as the most practical means of developing a more meaningful and cost effective regime for the future.

EUROPE

The European Commission has issued a further draft Directive, intended to harmonise the financial and technical requirements for the cross-border selling of life assurance in a single European market. Standard Life is pleased that the regulatory framework proposed is broadly in line with current UK practice.

STAFF

The Chairman and the Managing Director praised highly the efforts of the Company's staff in writing record amounts of new business, and at the same time in further improving the quality of service to policyholders.

BOARD AND EXECUTIVE CHANGES

During the year Mr John B Zaozimy, former Minister of Energy and Natural Resources in the Government of Alberta, Canada, was appointed a director of the Company.

Mr A U Lyburn, General Manager (Personnel) and Mr R R Naudie, Executive Vice President (Corporate) of Standard Life's Canadian Organisation, retired after long and distinguished careers with the Company.

OUTLOOK FOR THE GROUP

Standard Life has strengthened its position in the UK market and has moved further towards establishing an equally significant presence in Canada.

Notwithstanding the general concern about the overall level of demand in 1992 for life assurance, pensions and savings products, Standard Life has little doubt that its financial strength and record, together with the abilities and enthusiasm of its staff, will ensure that it will again increase its share of the markets in which it chooses to operate.

Standard Life

WE DON'T FOLLOW STANDARDS. WE SET THEM.

IMRO

STANDARD LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY IS A MAJOR COMPANY REGISTERED IN SCOTLAND INC 24 WEST END HOUSE 43 GEORGE STREET EDINBURGH EH2 2DZ
THE STANDARD LIFE HOLDING GROUP ALSO INCLUDES STANDARD LIFE INVESTMENT FUNDS LIMITED, STANDARD LIFE PENSION FUNDS LIMITED

Lautro

TEMPUS

Painful diet could bring Prudential back to health

BARRY GREENWOOD



Ice cool: Malcolm Walker, the chairman of Iceland Frozen Foods

THERE seems no end to the Prudential Corporation's diet. Soon after his appointment as chief executive in 1990, Mick Newmarch ordered the sale of the Belgian subsidiary. Last year, it was the turn of the ill-fated estate agency chain. Now Mr Newmarch has closed the doors on general insurance broker business.

Time will tell if the Pru emerges leaner and fitter or just leaner. However, most of the disposals were ideal candidates and some have left ugly holes in the Pru's otherwise robust profit and loss account.

The general insurance business was one. Its £77 million pre-tax loss, combined with closure costs of £53 million, transformed healthy figures for 1991 into limp ones, including a retained loss of £113 million.

Group pre-tax profits rose 9 per cent to £267 million, mainly due to the absence of any estate agency losses (£34 million last time). If the Pru had decided to take the closure costs above the line as reorganisation expenses, the picture would have looked far less healthy. Despite this, the dividend for the year is rising 7 per cent to 11p.

Shareholders must now wait and see what ideas Mr Newmarch comes up with next. The axe may well fall again, since Mercantile & General, the reinsurance arm, is still an uncomfortable fit with the group's retail business, regardless of the group's vocal commitment to the business.

Alternatively, the group may look for an overseas acquisition to repeat the success of Jackson National, its American subsidiary. It could also try to buy a place in the British high street with the acquisition of a building society, although Mr Newmarch has ruled out any approach to Midland Bank.

In the meantime, the City is waiting for the Pru to adopt the new accrual accounting methods which would highlight the innate strength of its life fund. Until then, the shares, at 22p, are reasonably priced on a price/earnings ratio of 16, assuming £400 million profit this year.

Shareholders must now wait and see what ideas Mr Newmarch comes up with next. The axe may well fall again, since Mercantile & General, the reinsurance arm, is still an uncomfortable fit with the group's retail business, regardless of the group's vocal commitment to the business.

Alternatively, the group may look for an overseas acquisition to repeat the success of Jackson National, its American subsidiary. It could also try to buy a place in the British high street with the acquisition of a building society, although Mr Newmarch has ruled out any approach to Midland Bank.

In the meantime, the City is waiting for the Pru to adopt the new accrual accounting methods which would highlight the innate strength of its life fund. Until then, the shares, at 22p, are reasonably priced on a price/earnings ratio of 16, assuming £400 million profit this year.

The hint last November

Sterling bets on property market

Lord Sterling is in no doubt. So convinced is he that better times lie ahead that he has spent £1 million on buying 250,000 P&O shares, a gesture echoed by Bruce MacPhail, P&O's managing director, who spent over £500,000 on increasing his personal stake in the shipping-to-property conglomerate. Indeed, there was rather a lot of what his lordship describes as putting your money where your mouth is yesterday. No more so than at Chelsfield, the private property company run by Elliott Bernard, which provided a much-needed boost to the property sector by confirming that it had raised a total of £227 million, including £65 million of pre-commitments to an £80 million equity placing that BZW will unveil formally today.

To raise any equity in the current property market is remarkable, but to raise £65 million in a week where even the mighty Olympia & York has stumbled is little short of astonishing. Pre-commitments include £10 million each from Chelsfield and P&O and an as yet unspecified, but significant, investment from British Land. Through their participation, Mr Bernard, Lord Sterling and John Ritblat — three hardened veterans of earlier slumps — have demonstrated their conviction that there is, or soon will be, money to be made from property. Where they lead, others are likely to follow, albeit at a prudently cautious pace.

Lord Sterling is also banking on a property recovery at P&O. The unwinding of Pall Mall Properties, the joint venture with Chelsfield, will swell P&O's investment portfolio to around £1.3 billion. Selling up to £500 million of that over the next three years could be the best way of reducing P&O's gearing, which will rise inconveniently to 70 per cent as a result of yesterday's deals. Property's army of Jeremiads will say it cannot be done, that the property market is now entering an unexplored wilderness of vacancy rates and unserviceable debt. Three leaders in that market have staked millions on them being wrong. Reputations, as well as personal fortunes, are on the line.

Awaiting the call

After the long and rewarding reign of two powerful personalities, the management succession at Lloyds Bank was always likely to be tricky. Yesterday's confirmation of Sir Jeremy Morse's retirement shows the difficulties. Sir Robin Ibbotson has had an impressive business career, but will surely be little more than a caretaker chairman when he steps up next year. Sir Robin is already 67, two and a half years older than Sir Jeremy. He may well be keeping the seat warm for Sir David Walker, while the latter serves an apprenticeship as deputy chairman, an initiation that Sir Jeremy underwent in 1976. That arrangement leaves room for the possibility, depending in part on the outcome of the election, that Sir David could become Governor of the Bank of England next year, after Robin Leigh-Pemberton comes to the end of his second term. Sir David, a former Bank director, could strengthen his chances further with a spell on the board of a clearing bank.

Brian Pitman is to stay on as Lloyds' chief executive until 1995, when he will be 63 and three years above the normal executive retirement age. Michael Hepher, the former head of Lloyds Abbey Life, was regarded as heir apparent until he moved to British Telecom. Lloyds kept the field wide open yesterday by appointing John Davies as deputy chief executive. Mr Davies is 59 and not, therefore, an obvious successor. Whoever eventually takes either job at Lloyds will have a lot to live up to — and no Midland Bank to inherit.

Vauxhall is challenging

Ford's position as the leading seller of new cars. Kevin Eason looks at the battle for the coveted top slot

Ian McAllister has come out punching hard in the third round of the bitter battle for supremacy over the British car market between Ford and Vauxhall. Ford has been the nation's biggest car company for 15 years and Mr McAllister, the new chairman of Ford UK, has told his 1,000 dealers that he is not going to give up that position easily.

The company had a bad start to the year, announcing 2,100 redundancies and a record financial loss of £50 million. The last thing Ford and its dealers need is the confidence-sapping announcement that Vauxhall has won the lead as Britain's biggest supplier of new cars. The record says that Ford still has its top position, but the official figures have masked a desperate clawback by the company in each of the past two months.

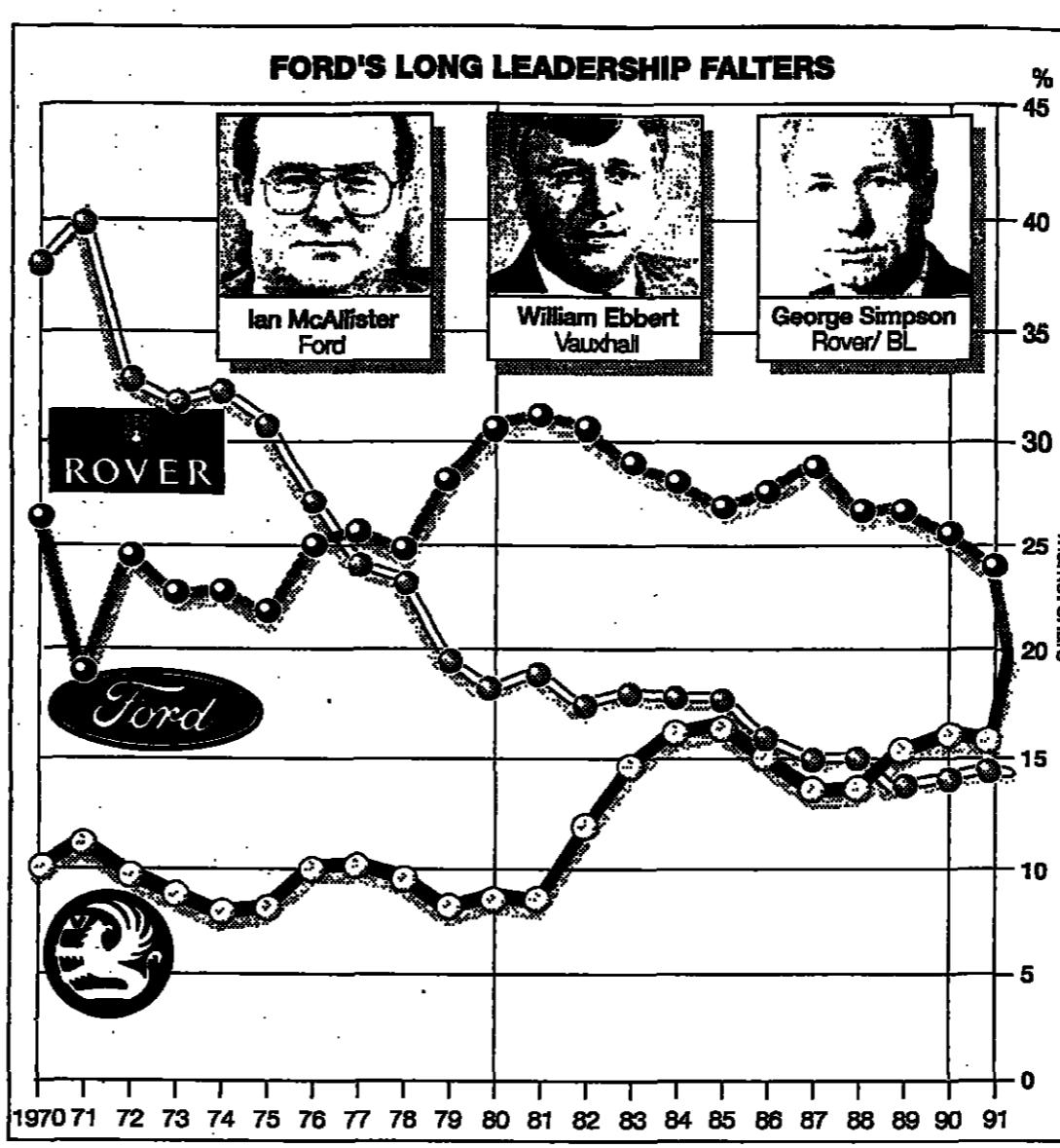
Vauxhall, the British subsidiary of General Motors, has come close to knocking Ford off the top position, mainly because of a better range of models. Vauxhall's Cavalier has become the top-selling car and the new Astra, introduced last year, has been widely acclaimed. Ford's Sierra, the chief competitor to the Cavalier, is due for replacement and its new Escort was greeted coolly on its 1990 launch.

Ford might be leading on points, in boxing parlance, but its efforts look increasingly like those of the overweight, flatfooted old champion, but throwing everything into one big effort that might drain its strength for later rounds. Ford cars continue to feature regularly among the first few positions of the top ten best sellers, but at what cost? The price of ensuring cars are best sellers is expensive when they are not the cars the buyers really want.

The first thing to understand about the current battle is that the monthly sales figures are not a record of sales at all, but of registrations. Officially, a car does not have to leave the showroom with a customer to go to, merely to be given its registration documents.

That means manufacturers can land a variety of clever low blows to ensure their own monthly figures look healthy. Cars can be registered by dealers as demonstrators, a quick and easy play for the manufacturer that sees sales slipping and wants to boost its end-month totals.

A favourite with big manufacturers is to have cars registered with company fleets, particularly daily rental fleets. The rental fleets buy the cars at discounts of as much as 40 per cent, filtering them back onto the market as soon as six or eight weeks later to be sold as nearly-new cars. A little pressure on a main fleet customer, in which the manufacturer



might even have a financial stake, might encourage it to place an order strategically towards the end of the sales month, artificially boosting sales figures.

When Mr McAllister took over as chairman at the turn of the year, he gave an idealistic promise that Ford was no longer in the business of buying registrations. He said he wanted to scale down heavily discounted fleet deals that made no profit for Ford, having only the value of maintaining registrations.

In January, Ford found itself trailing Vauxhall after 20 days, but somehow found 15,000 extra registrations towards the end of the month to retain leadership. February was even more fascinating: as the unthinkable was about to happen. By Friday, February 28, Ford public relations executives closed in the company's unprepossessing headquarters at Warley, Essex, were convinced that they had lost market leadership.

Bill Ebbert, Vauxhall's chairman, was understandably cock-a-hoop. A 20-year haul back from huge financial losses, inefficient factories and unreliable cars had been completed by overtaking both Ford and Rover in the sales charts.

Vauxhall only started to pay corporation tax for the first time in two decades, in 1989 as the business

paid off £300 million of accumulated debt. The struggle over those 20 years had forced Vauxhall to introduce new working practices, radically increasing productivity by as much as 60 per cent in four years at its Luton, Bedfordshire, plant. Models were improved and new marketing strategies introduced.

The key to Vauxhall's restructuring was the company's push to build exports to the Continent to bolster its domestic sales and set against imports from GM's continental plants. Last year, Vauxhall sent 102,000 cars across the Channel from its main production plant at Luton and Ellesmere Port, Merseyside, out of total British output of more than 261,000 cars, turning it into a net exporter. Exports enabled Vauxhall to withstand the impact of the slump in the British market, down by a third in two years.

Instead of discounting, Vauxhall took the marketing high ground of setting fixed prices for key models, such as the Astra, to end the haggling that customers said they did not want. The move was in direct opposition to Ford's price-cutting, to some extent forced on the business by its reliance on its home market.

Vauxhall geared up for exporting two years ago. George Simpson, chairman of Rover, is changing his company's entire marketing strategy to overseas sales. Mr Simpson wants 60 per cent of output to go abroad and is well on target with exports last year up to 240,000 while production for the domestic market fell below 230,000.

By contrast, Ford exports only the Fiesta, the small car made at Dagenham, Essex. Overseas sales account for about 60 per cent of the daily output of 1,100 cars, an endorsement of the rapid quality and efficiency improvements at Ford's oldest British plant.

Ford is, however, a large net importer. British production of the Escort, Britain's best-selling car throughout the Eighties, has been sold only at home. The Escort has been Ford's bread-and-butter car, the mainstay of fleets and a money-spinner in good times.

The latest generation of the car arrived to scathing criticism and has not yet really recovered. The Escort plant at Halewood, Merseyside, was on short-time working for the second half of last year and only this year has pilot production on Escort exports started. A new multi-valve engined Zeta range has been introduced, but rival manufacturers have been marketing small multi-valve cars for years.

Against the background of Ford's

struggles, winning leadership of the British market would have sealed the success of Vauxhall's strategy — but the dream was shattered on March 3 when final registrations were added up. Ford had won leadership back by just 149 cars.

After three weeks in which Ford's daily sales never exceeded 1,000 cars, suddenly the company recorded registrations in the last four days of 2,689, 2,171, 1,216 and 1,013. They were enough to sneak past Vauxhall. Ford later admitted that two fleet deals had brought orders for "hundreds of cars" although the company refused to elaborate on how big an impact they had on the last days of February.

If February was a close shave, then there is to be no mistake this month. Dealers have been told in a letter from Ernie Thompson, Ford's sales director, that the company wants a 30 per cent share of the March new car market, closer to levels ten years ago and much more than February's 22.8 per cent.

This declaration of intent came immediately after the Budget when discounts worth up to £750 were added to savings averaging £400 a car from the halving of special car tax. In reality, some dealers have been offering even more generous discounts to keep stock moving.

That is hardly surprising given the incentives — double previous bonuses — on offer to dealers. Those selling between 50 and 75 per cent of their sales targets for Fiesta and Escort models this month will be paid £100 a car. Between 75 and 100 per cent, the incentives rise to £300 (up from £150) and by over 100 per cent to £500 a car (£200 previously).

Offers on Orion, Sierra and Granada are similarly worth up to £500 for the dealer who gets registrations and helps propel Ford towards its 30 per cent target share for March. That means Ford is spending as much as £1,300 per car before it leaves the showroom, a bold marketing strategy that should "move metal" and retain leadership but that is unlikely to put any profit back into the Warley coffers.

Vauxhall remains a leadership contender and gathers strength in the marketplace. Several other manufacturers are also nibbling away at Ford's traditional customer base. Rover's market share is reviving. Peugeot has leapt from taking under 3 per cent of UK sales to almost 8 per cent, while Nissan, now manufacturing at Washington, Tyne & Wear, is girding its loins, having lost market share and been obliged to concentrate on export markets during the dispute with its former main distributor.

The increasing confidence of rival manufacturers will surely bring an end to the domination of car sales in Britain by one company. Ford has enjoyed its position for 15 years, accounting, at its peak, for one in three of all new car sales. The pressure from Vauxhall means Ford's domination could be brought to an end soon, but that will only end the waiting that has surrounded the motor industry all year.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Renate drives into Broadgate

RENATE Weisenthal, owner of the successful Renate designer clothes shop in Knightsbridge, has used her husband's motor industry contacts to secure an interesting backer for a new Renate store in the Bishopsgate section of the Broadgate development aimed specifically at the female executive. Weisenthal, whose husband is a director of Mercedes, persuaded their mutual friend, irrepressible millionaire David Wicks, one-time chairman of British Car Auctions, to back her new City venture. Wicks, aged 72, who once similarly tried his hand at the restaurant business, is the backer of Number 10 in Old Burlington Street, admiring to know "nothing at all" about clothes but says he is happy to "dip a toe in the waters" of the world of fashion. After selling BCA to Michael Ashcroft's ADT group in 1987, Wicks retired to Spain, but has since grown tired of Marbella and lives instead in Majorca. Although Wicks has sold his house in Eaton Place, and uses service apartments when in town, he is clearly becoming bored. He reveals that he is looking for a new challenge, but not fashion. "Something a little more serious," he says.

BZW U-turn

WITH pre-election bonus payments now in the news, it comes to light that for the past two years BZW has availed itself cleverly of a legal loophole and delivered its bonus payments to staff in unit trusts, thereby avoiding



national insurance contributions. This year, however, the securities house has decided to pay it by the book and has paid its bonus payments in cash. BZW insists that this fine display of rectitude has nothing to do with the appointment as BZW chairman of Sir Peter Middleton, the ex-permanent secretary at the Treasury. According to an in-house spokesman, Middleton arrived in March 1991 and the bonus U-turn only came about last November, when the legal loophole on unit trusts was plugged.

Kuwait next for BP

BP, which has recently taken a drumming over its 1991 results — and where chairman Bob Horton earned £87,000 last year, including bonus payments but excluding share options — looks set to be the first Western oil company to be invited into Kuwait in the aftermath of the Gulf war. Full details have yet to be confirmed by BP, which says it is still in negotiations, but a technical services deal should soon go through which, though small, is potentially of great significance. According to New York news-

Elwes did consider other systems

From Mr Nigel Elwes
Sir, I hope you will permit me to correct a point made by Peter Rawlins in his interview with Mr Kay (March 17). Mr Rawlins maintains that the Elwes Committee was not looking at other ways of making markets or trading. This is not true. Our terms of reference when we were appointed by the council in 1988 included instructions to "review the present market structure" and to "consider the present competing Market Maker system in comparison with other systems".

As part of our work we visited most major overseas exchanges to study alternative dealing systems, and much of the Consultative Document of May 1989 was devoted to our views on the effectiveness of the market. In July 1990 we published the Implementation Plan in which we stated: "one of the committee's prime aims was to assess whether the competing Market Maker system in comparison with other systems".

From Dr J. B. Illingworth
Sir, I have been reading with interest the letters in your Business supplement regarding "friendly banks". When I was 20, I went to the branch of Barclays Bank in New Bond Street to open my first bank account. The manager read my letter of introduction and then smiled and said: "Would you like to open your account by taking something out, or paying something in?" I am now 81, and needless to say, I still bank with Barclays!

Yours faithfully,
E. M. THOMAS,
13 The Cloisters,
Belmore Lane,
Lymington, Hants.

Pharmacist's role

From Mr D. H. Maddock
Sir, Your correspondent A. F. Rousell (Business Letters, March 18), in supporting Glaxo's pricing policies, makes the derogatory, dismissive remark that "all the chemist has to do is hand the stuff over the counter against a doctor's prescription".

On one further point, I am pleased that Mr Rawlins has now accepted the need for one integrated mechanism to handle Stock Exchange business. This need was highlighted by the Special Committee in their report of March 1990. They noted that "firms are concerned that the systems interface with the ISE are not what they should be". We outlined in Appendix 4 of our report, the concept of the Market Access Service which would allow all firms to access prices, deal, confirm and settle bargains through a common systems interface".

Yours faithfully,
NIGEL ELWES,
Aylesfield Farmhouse,
Aylesfield, Kent.

I am, Sir,
Yours faithfully,
J. B. ILLINGWORTH,
Northlands,
Hindon,
Salisbury,
Wiltshire.

Yours faithfully,
D. H. MADDOCK,
M. Pharm, Ph.D.
Fellow of the
Royal Pharmaceutical
Society,
Cefn Ydfa,
44 Church Street,
Padstow, Cornwall,

Shadow over homes used as collateral

From Mr T. M. Neill
Sir, Further to Anatole Kalisky's analysis of the Shadow budget, there is another aspect worthy of comment.

The big increase in tax and NIC on incomes over £23,000 will mean that less money is available for mortgage repayments. This will cause a drop in house prices, especially higher valued houses. I estimate that a 10 per cent fall would be necessary to accommodate this.

This fact has been widely discussed. But it will have important consequences, not far mentioned.

A straw poll among family and friends and business acquaintances reveals that the largest mortgages have been taken out by people wishing to re-

lease equity to invest in their own businesses. A further fall in houses prices will jeopardise those businesses by reducing the value of the collateral behind the loan. It will also make it less easy to raise money to finance growth once the recession ends.

Either way, such a policy can only prolong the recession among small businesses, rightly seen as the likely engine of growth and new jobs. Despite the confident and reassuring presentation, the greater the scrutiny of the Shadow budget the less substance it is seen to have.

Yours faithfully,
T. M. NEILL,
6 Pound Meadow,
Sherfield-on-Loddon,
Basingstoke, Hants.

Do you
mean
business?

We do.

Worwick Business School
A global approach
MBA, MSc, BSc, PGCE, Postgraduate Diploma
www.wbs.ac.uk
WBS

Portfolio PLATINUM

From your Portfolio Platinum card check your share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall gain or loss. Then add the new dividend and check this against the amount you've won outright or a share of the daily price money stated. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when you buy. Card rules appear on the back of your card.

Card rules appear on the back of your card.

No Company Group Gain or loss

1 TIT Group Industrial

2 Midland Banks/Ins

3 Argo Weights Paper/Print

4 Life Sciences Electrical

5 Inscape Industrial

6 Swift Jeff Paper/Print

7 Transport Dev Transport

8 BICC Electrical

9 Smith WH A Drapery/Sts

10 Cyclo Per Oil/Gas

11 Wood (Arthur) Industrial

12 Shaded Toys Industrial

13 Tide & Lite Rods

14 Diverse Corp Drapery/Sts

15 South West Water

16 Hartree Crdifd Industrial

17 BTR Industrial

18 Axon/B Port Transport

19 Bentok Chem/Phar

20 Mowlem (J) Building/Rds

21 Grand Met Breweries

22 Leeders Industrial

23 Bridport-Credifd Industrial

24 Uniglobe Foods

25 Seven Treas Water

26 Iceland Frozen Foods

27 Lucas Motor/Air

28 Marks Spencer Drapery/Sts

29 Merryweather Breweries

30 Traliader H Industrial

31 Bowmer Industrial

32 Coats Vycette Drapery/Sts

33 Pentland Industrial

34 CALA Building/Rds

35 GKN Industrial

36 Harry O & G Oil/Gas

37 Derwent Ridge Property

38 Stanwick Paper/Print

39 De La Rue Industrial

40 PPG Hodgson Industrial

41 Pendragon Motor/Air

42 Uid Newspages Newsprint/Pub

43 LRMS Electrical

44 Stourhead Drapery/Sts Total

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily goals for the weekly dividend of £5,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT WEEKLY TOTAL

Julie Dawn Griffin, of Southampton, won the £2,000 Portfolio Platinum prize yesterday.

1991/92 High Low Company Price Net Yld % P/E

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

111 277 151 51 12.2

112 185 105 21 12.1

113 174 93 21 13.3

114 1000 1000 1000 1000 1000

115 160 80 160 80

116 349 200 349 200

117 322 160 322 160

118 334 200 334 200

119 154 154 154 154

120 165 165 165 165

121 165 165 165 165

122 165 165 165 165

123 165 165 165 165

124 165 165 165 165

125 165 165 165 165

126 165 165 165 165

127 165 165 165 165

128 165 165 165 165

129 165 165 165 165

130 165 165 165 165

131 165 165 165 165

132 165 165 165 165

133 165 165 165 165

134 165 165 165 165

135 165 165 165 165

136 165 165 165 165

137 165 165 165 165

138 165 165 165 165

139 165 165 165 165

140 165 165 165 165

141 165 165 165 165

142 165 165 165 165

143 165 165 165 165

144 165 165 165 165

145 165 165 165 165

146 165 165 165 165

147 165 165 165 165

148 165 165 165 165

149 165 165 165 165

150 165 165 165 165

151 165 165 165 165

152 165 165 165 165

153 165 165 165 165

154 165 165 165 165

155 165 165 165 165

156 165 165 165 165

157 165 165 165 165

158 165 165 165 165

159 165 165 165 165

160 165 165 165 165

161 165 165 165 165

162 165 165 165 165

163 165 165 165 165

164 165 165 165 165

165 165 165 165 165

166 165 165 165 165

167 165 165 165 165

168 165 165 165 165

169 165 165 165 165

170 165 165 165 165

171 165 165 165 165

172 165 165 165 165

173 165 165 165 165

174 165 165 165 165

175 165 165 165 165

176 165 165 165 165

177 165 165 165 165

178 165 165 165 165

179 165 165 165 165

180 165 165 165 165

181 165 165 165 165

182 165 165 165 165

183 165 165 165 165

184 165 165 165 165

185 165 165 165 165

186 165 165 165 165

187 165 165 165 165

188 165 165 165 165

189 165 165 165 165

190 165 165 165 165

191 165 165 165 165

192 165 165 165 165

193 165 165 165 165

194 165 165 165 165

195 165 165 165 165

196 165 165 165 165

197 165 165 165 165

198 165 165 165 165

199 165 165 165 165

200 165 165 165 165

201 165 165 165 165

202 165 165 165 165

203 165 165 165 165

204 165 165 165 165

205 165 165 165 165

206 165 165 165 165

207 165 165 165 165

208 165 165 165 165

209 165 165 165 165

210 165 165 165 165

211 165 165 165 165

212 165 165 1

Japanese business confidence slumps to a five-year low

BY COLIN NARBROUGH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

BUSINESS confidence among Japanese companies, desperate for a cut in interest rates, has slumped to the bearish level last seen during the 1986 recession, according to a survey from the ministry of finance in Tokyo.

Government and the financial markets have been clamouring for weeks for a cut in the official discount rate, (ODA), but Yasushi Mieno, governor of the Bank of Japan, (BoJ), has resisted the pressure, insisting that the central bank is still evaluating the impact of the reductions it made in the ODA last year, most recently in December.

The economic indicators have long signalled slowdown and weakening inflationary pressure, providing scope for a rate cut. Market analysts expect a cut by the end of the financial year on March 31 of

50 to 75 basis points in the ODA, currently at 4.5 per cent. The cut would be accompanied by the economic package the government has announced to stimulate the economy.

Neil MacKinnon, chief economist at Yamaichi International, said the case for an immediate cut was "overwhelming". He said Mr Mieno was in danger of pursuing a policy of overkill that could cause severe problems on the depressed Japanese markets.

Tsutomu Hata, the Japanese finance minister, yesterday sought to assure that the government's package of measures would boost growth and give business confidence a lift. But his department's survey showed that the number of companies which believe the economy will

shrink in the current quarter exceeded the number expecting it to expand. Companies expressed similar negative sentiments for the second quarter and are only looking for a return to growth in the third quarter.

The January-March index,

which shows the balance between companies reporting upturn and those reporting downturn, showed a minus 12.1 per cent for large companies, minus 9.8 per cent for medium-sized firms, and minus 10.6 per cent for small firms. Sentiment in manufacturing was worse than for the services sector.

The survey also shows that pre-tax profits are expected to drop an annualised 6.7 per cent in the six months to March, but rise again by 1.9 per cent in the coming six months. On Tuesday, the BoJ reported that the economic data for January and February showed that the slide was continuing, but that recovery could be expected in the next six months.

Japan's domestic wholesale prices were unchanged in the first 10 days of March, giving an annual fall of 0.7 per cent. This augurs well for slowing inflation, expected to be confirmed in consumer price data on Friday.

While the Japanese authorities are keen to avoid unleashing the "bubble economy", the twin stimulus of government measures and an ODA cut should boost business confidence and provide a prop for share prices. Whether firms will be sufficiently emboldened to speed up capital investment programmes significantly is, however, less sure.

The French February trade surplus narrowed to

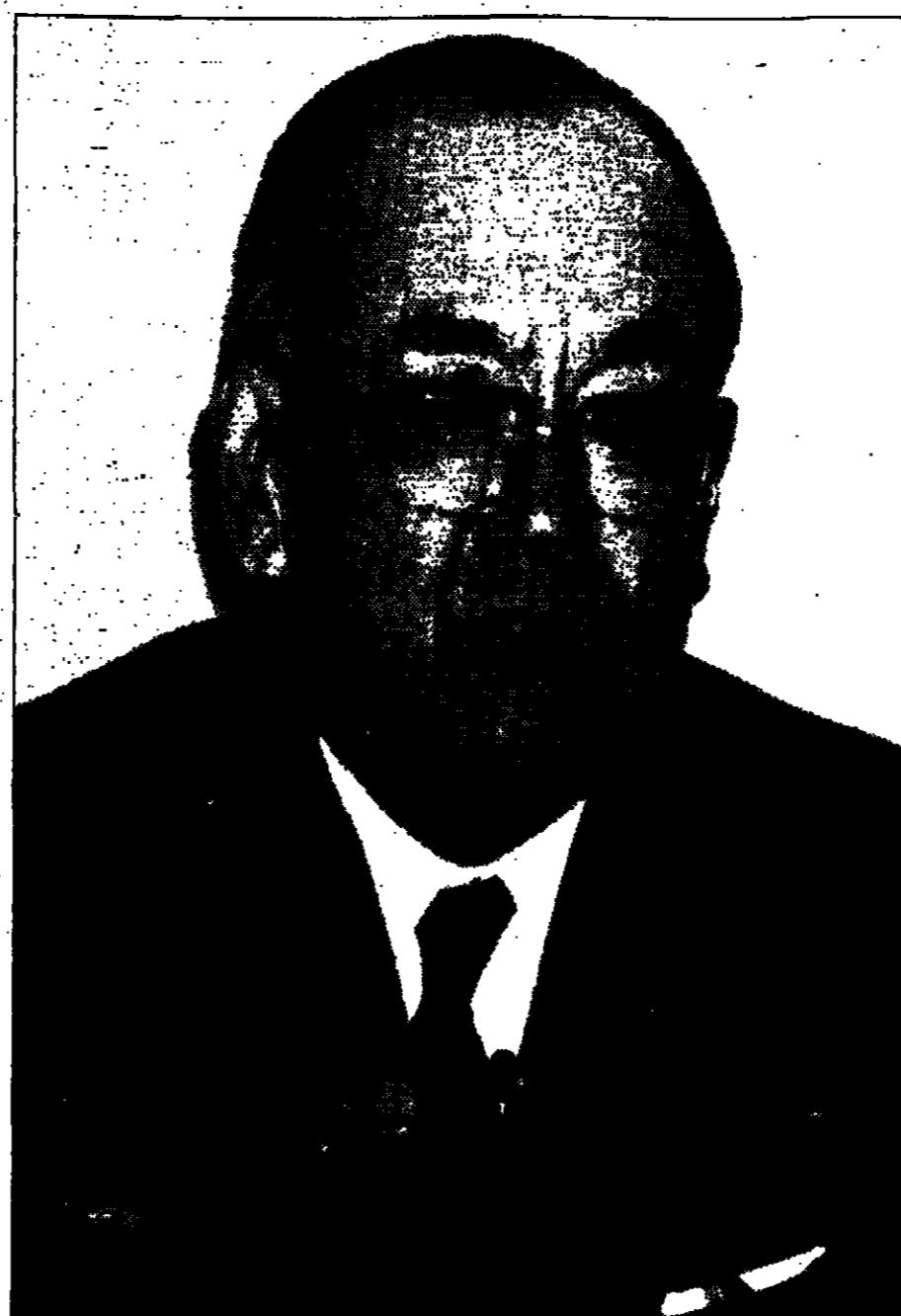
Fr407 million from Fr3.53 billion in January, official seasonally-adjusted figures showed. This brought the surplus so far to Fr3.94 billion (Fr8.67bn deficit).

and Pacific Rim markets." BTR Nylex said.

It said Westinghouse had a strong technology manufacturing base in Australia. "Nylex has the management capability to ensure an enhancement of its earnings from the development of these combined resources."

BTR Nylex said it expected the formal offer document to be lodged with the Australian Securities Commission by March 30, and the formal offer to be made to Westinghouse shareholders no later than April 13.

The statement made no mention of whether BTR Nylex would also bid for Hawker de Havilland, which was 72.85 per cent owned by Hawker Siddeley.



Danger of economic overkill: Yasushi Mieno, governor of the Bank of Japan

Warning on 'Maxwell martyrs'

By OUR CITY STAFF

THE pension industry will suffer "irreparable damage" unless compensation is paid to victims of the Maxwell pension fund scandal, business leaders were warned yesterday.

Mr Ken Trench, who is fighting for compensation for thousands of Maxwell pension fund members, warned the industry not to underestimate the effect of the saga.

"If Maxwell pensioners do

not receive compensation and become Maxwell martyrs, the pension industry will bear the stigma for many years to come and lose its high-trust, low-risk image," he told a conference at the Confederation of British Industry in London.

He urged delegates who included officials of pension funds from top British companies, to join the fight for compensation.

"Public awareness of company pensions has never been higher but your image has never been lower," he told the conference.

"If Maxwell pensioners do

port his group's demand for an independent inquiry into the failure of the regulatory system.

He urged delegates who included officials of pension funds from top British companies, to join the fight for compensation.

"Public awareness of company pensions has never been higher but your image has never been lower," he told the conference.

"If Maxwell pensioners do

Salaries soaring on Wall Street

FROM PHILIP ROBINSON IN NEW YORK

TOP executives at Merrill Lynch, which is America's largest stock broker, were given pay packages totalling \$88 million last year when the firm made record profits of \$700 million.

William Schreyer, Merrill's chairman, was given a \$1 per cent rise to \$5.9 million and granted share options worth \$10.9 million at Monday's market price. Daniel Tully, the president, received \$4.9 million in cash and share options worth \$9.4 million.

Eleven other executives received cash and share options worth an average of \$5.2 million. Merrill pointed out that the options should not be included as part of the salary because the executives cannot cash them immediately.

Mr Schreyer's options allow him to buy shares in Merrill at \$21.57 a share. The broker's price closed at \$58.50 on

Cathay Pacific cuts costs

FROM LULU YU
IN HONG KONG

FALLING profits have led Cathay Pacific Airways to start cutting costs and increasing productivity. The flag-carrying airline, a subsidiary of Swire Pacific, made net profits of HK\$2.95 billion (\$222 million) last year, down 1.5 per cent. David Gledhill, the chairman, said the results had been hurt by the Gulf war, which reduced world travel.

He said: "Although passengers started to fly again in greater numbers in the latter part of the year, the recession continued and price competition increased - as airlines struggled to conserve or improve cash flow." While he hoped for improved revenues this year, the airline's success would depend on its ability to control costs.

Low costs and cash generation enabled the group to reduce gearing from 39 per cent to 22 per cent. Earnings climb from 4.24p to 4.92p a share. The dividend is being raised by 13.6 per cent to 1.25p (1.1p). The shares firmed 4p to 44p.

Dividend at Goal raised

BY PHILIP PANGALOS

GOAL Petroleum, the independent oil exploration and production company, is raising its dividend in spite of a 4.5 per cent decline in pre-tax profits to £10.1 million in the year to end-December.

Turnover increased by 7.4 per cent to £44.8 million, in spite of an 11 per cent fall in the average price of oil from £12.05 to £10.72 per barrel of oil. The group lost about £5.5 million on turnover because of the fall in the oil price. Production advanced by 21 per cent to a record 11,460 barrels of oil per day. The figures were boosted by a full contribution from Wytch Farm, Dorset.

Low costs and cash generation enabled the group to reduce gearing from 39 per cent to 22 per cent. Earnings climb from 4.24p to 4.92p a share. The dividend is being raised by 13.6 per cent to 1.25p (1.1p). The shares firmed 4p to 44p.

No doom. No gloom. Sun.

At Sun, we've never been an ordinary computer company.

While others face doom, and talk gloom, we celebrate our ten years of consistent growth, all at a pace that's five times faster than the rest of the computer business.

At Sun, we are seeing gains, not losses. In the quarter ending 27 December, we made 20% more sales over the same period a year ago, and shipped more product than ever before.

We are successful too with our new multiprocessing servers - powerful minicomputers with superfast processing for business and technical applications - and we're on target to be the world's foremost supplier of multiprocessor servers by the end of 1992.

We are continuing to expand our Scottish factory, and export millions of pounds of advanced computer technology from Britain all over the world.

Today, Sun commands the largest share - nearly 40% - of the world's fastest growing computer market: workstations and servers.

Sun developed SPARC, the RISC chip with over 50% of its market.

Sun pioneered truly open computing.

Sun strives for coexistence, not conflict, in computing.



Sun Microsystems Ltd

Warchmoor Park, Riverside Way, Camberley GU15 3YL Tel: (0276) 20444 Fax: (0276) 681519

Sun has offices at: Bristol, Cambridge, Coventry, Dublin, Edinburgh, Gatwick, Leeds, London City, Sale

Sun Microsystems, Inc., Sun Microsystems and the Sun logo are registered trademarks of Sun Microsystems, Inc. SPARC is a registered trademark of SPARC International, Inc. SPARCSun is a registered trademark of SPARC International, Inc. Licensed exclusively to Sun Microsystems, Inc. Products bearing the SPARC trademark are based on an architecture developed by Sun Microsystems, Inc. Sun's growth rate is based on average revenue growth from 1982 to 1991. SPARC has 58% of the worldwide RISC processor market; nearest competitor has 8%. 1990 source IDC.

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

Abbey Unit Trust Managers												Aegon Growth												
Bid	Offer	+/-	%	Bid	Offer	+/-	%	Bid	Offer	+/-	%	Bid	Offer	+/-	%	Bid	Offer	+/-	%	Bid	Offer	+/-	%	
Abbey Fund Inc	100.00	100.00	-0.00	0.00	Growth	308.10	320.60	+ 2.10	2.57	Far Eastern	166.95	175.74	- 0.26	1.53	American Inc	36.43	38.54	- 0.32	0.62	Global Growth	80.82	80.20	+ 0.26	1.16
Abbey Fund Inc	100.00	100.00	-0.00	0.00	Int'l Acc	514.20	550.00	+ 3.50	2.57	Guinness	350.80	374.70	- 0.80	3.24	Global Tech	91.52	91.00	+ 0.09	0.54					
Abbey Fund Inc	100.00	100.00	-0.00	0.00	Income Growth	350.50	319.70	+ 4.30	5.49	Income Trust	83.52	89.23	- 0.44	6.37	Investment Fund	79.77	80.00	+ 0.49	5.94					
Abbey Fund Inc	100.00	100.00	-0.00	0.00	International	382.10	406.50	+ 5.50	5.46	International	123.40	131.80	- 1.40	1.76	Income Monthly	49.12	51.32	+ 0.16	0.54					
Abbey Fund Inc	100.00	100.00	-0.00	0.00	Master Portfolio	828.80	868.80	- 13.00	2.91	Managed	98.75	105.50	- 0.30	2.23	UK Growth	85.33	85.00	+ 0.05	0.56					
Abbey Fund Inc	100.00	100.00	-0.00	0.00	Special Sler	92.20	97.01	- 1.50	2.81	North American	200.00	213.00	- 1.00	0.41	High Income	59.44	60.50	+ 0.16	0.60					
Abbey Fund Inc	100.00	100.00	-0.00	0.00	Int'l Acc	69.42	73.86	+ 0.34	2.59	Small Cos	51.40	55.12	+ 0.16	1.38	Japanese Cos	57.32	57.32	+ 0.00	0.56					
Abbey Fund Inc	100.00	100.00	-0.00	0.00	Intl Currentcy	70.39	84.46	+ 0.10	2.50	Small Cos Div	105.30	110.00	- 1.10	0.41	Special Opp.	65.27	65.00	+ 0.04	0.51					
Abbey Fund Inc	100.00	100.00	-0.00	0.00	Intl Currancy	801.40	981.20	+ 2.10	4.08	Small Cos Exempt	254.30	270.60	+ 0.50	4.24	Special Opp.	72.14	72.00	+ 0.06	0.51					
Abbey Fund Inc	100.00	100.00	-0.00	0.00	Intl Fund	100.00	109.70	+ 1.00	0.08	Small Cos Int'l	804.50	800.00	+ 0.30	4.24	Special Opp.	54.65	54.00	+ 0.06	0.51					
Abbey Fund Inc	100.00	100.00	-0.00	0.00	Intl Fund	100.00	109.70	+ 1.00	0.08	Small Cos Int'l	242.30	244.30	+ 0.50	6.12	Special Opp.	44.08	44.00	+ 0.06	0.51					
Abbey Fund Inc	100.00	100.00	-0.00	0.00	Intl Fund	100.00	109.70	+ 1.00	0.08	Small Cos Int'l	144.70	152.40	+ 0.20	8.84	Special Opp.	34.08	34.00	+ 0.06	0.51					
Abbey Fund Inc	100.00	100.00	-0.00	0.00	Intl Fund	100.00	109.70	+ 1.00	0.08	Small Cos Int'l	804.67	84.02	+ 0.12	8.84	Special Opp.	24.08	24.00	+ 0.06	0.51					
Abbey Fund Inc	100.00	100.00	-0.00	0.00	Intl Fund	100.00	109.70	+ 1.00	0.08	Small Cos Int'l	144.70	152.40	+ 0.20	8.84	Special Opp.	14.08	14.00	+ 0.06	0.51					
Abbey Fund Inc	100.00	100.00	-0.00	0.00	Intl Fund	100.00	109.70	+ 1.00	0.08	Small Cos Int'l	804.67	84.02	+ 0.12	8.84	Special Opp.	4.08	4.00	+ 0.06	0.51					
Abbey Fund Inc	100.00	100.00	-0.00	0.00	Intl Fund	100.00	109.70	+ 1.00	0.08	Small Cos Int'l	144.70	152.40	+ 0.20	8.84	Special Opp.	4.08	4.00	+ 0.06	0.51					
Abbey Fund Inc	100.00	100.00	-0.00	0.00	Intl Fund	100.00	109.70	+ 1.00	0.08	Small Cos Int'l	804.67	84.02	+ 0.12	8.84	Special Opp.	4.08	4.00	+ 0.06	0.51					
Abbey Fund Inc	100.00	100.00	-0.00	0.00	Intl Fund	100.00	109.70	+ 1.00	0.08	Small Cos Int'l	144.70	152.40	+ 0.20	8.84	Special Opp.	4.08	4.00	+ 0.06	0.51					
Abbey Fund Inc	100.00	100.00	-0.00	0.00	Intl Fund	100.00	109.70	+ 1.00	0.08	Small Cos Int'l	804.67	84.02	+ 0.12	8.84	Special Opp.	4.08	4.00	+ 0.06	0.51					
Abbey Fund Inc	100.00	100.00	-0.00	0.00	Intl Fund	100.00	109.70	+ 1.00	0.08	Small Cos Int'l	144.70	152.40	+ 0.20	8.84	Special Opp.	4.08	4.00	+ 0.06	0.51					
Abbey Fund Inc	100.00	100.00	-0.00	0.00	Intl Fund	100.00	109.70	+ 1.00	0.08	Small Cos Int'l	804.67	84.02	+ 0.12	8.84	Special Opp.	4.08	4.00	+ 0.06	0.51					
Abbey Fund Inc	100.00	100.00	-0.00	0.00	Intl Fund	100.00	109.70	+ 1.00	0.08	Small Cos Int'l	144.70	152.40	+ 0.20	8.84	Special Opp.	4.08	4.00	+ 0.06	0.51					
Abbey Fund Inc	100.00	100.00	-0.00	0.00	Intl Fund	100.00	109.70	+ 1.00	0.08	Small Cos Int'l	804.67	84.02	+ 0.12	8.84	Special Opp.	4.08	4.00	+ 0.06	0.51					
Abbey Fund Inc	100.00	100.00	-0.00	0.00	Intl Fund	100.00	109.70	+ 1.00	0.08	Small Cos Int'l	144.70	152.40	+ 0.20	8.84	Special Opp.	4.08	4.00	+ 0.06	0.51					
Abbey Fund Inc	100.00	100.00	-0.00	0.00	Intl Fund	100.00	109.70	+ 1.00	0.08	Small Cos Int'l	804.67	84.02	+ 0.12	8.84	Special Opp.	4.08	4.00	+ 0.06	0.51					
Abbey Fund Inc	100.00	100.00	-0.00	0.00	Intl Fund	100.00	109.70	+ 1.00	0.08	Small Cos Int'l	144.70	152.40	+ 0.20	8.84	Special Opp.	4.08	4.00	+ 0.06	0.51					
Abbey Fund Inc	100.00	100.00	-0.00	0.00	Intl Fund	100.00	109.70	+ 1.00	0.08	Small Cos Int'l	804.67	84.02	+ 0.12	8.84	Special Opp.	4.08	4.00	+ 0.06	0.51					
Abbey Fund Inc	100.00	100.00	-0.00	0.00	Intl Fund	100.00	109.70	+ 1.00	0.08	Small Cos Int'l	144.70	152.40	+ 0.20	8.84	Special Opp.	4.08	4.00	+ 0.06	0.51					
Abbey Fund Inc	100.00	100.00	-0.00	0.00	Intl Fund	100.00	109.70	+ 1.00	0.08	Small Cos Int'l	804.67	84.02	+ 0.12	8.84	Special Opp.	4.08	4.00	+ 0.06	0.51					
Abbey Fund Inc	100.00	100.00	-0.00	0.00	Intl Fund	100.00	109.70	+ 1.00	0.08	Small Cos Int'l	144.70	152.40	+ 0.20	8.84	Special Opp.	4.08	4.00	+ 0.06	0.51					
Abbey Fund Inc	100.00	100.00	-0.00	0.00	Intl Fund	100.00	109.70	+ 1.00	0.08	Small Cos Int'l	804.67	84.02	+ 0.12	8.84	Special Opp.	4.08	4.00	+ 0.06	0.51					
Abbey Fund Inc	100.00	100.00	-0.00	0.00	Intl Fund	100.00	109.70	+ 1.00	0.08	Small Cos Int'l	144.70	152.40	+ 0.20	8.84	Special Opp.	4.08	4.00	+ 0.06	0.51					
Abbey Fund Inc	100.00	100.00	-0.00	0.00	Intl Fund	100.00	109.70	+ 1.00	0.08	Small Cos Int'l	804.67	84.02	+ 0.12	8.84	Special Opp.	4.08	4.00	+ 0.06	0.51					
Abbey Fund Inc	100.00	100.00	-0.00	0.00	Intl Fund	100.00	109.70	+ 1.00	0.08	Small Cos Int'l	144.70	152.40	+ 0.20	8.84	Special Opp.	4.08	4.00	+ 0.06	0.51					
Abbey Fund Inc	100.00	100.00	-0.00	0.00	Intl Fund	100.00	109.70	+ 1.00	0.08	Small Cos Int'l	804.67	84.02	+ 0.12	8.84	Special Opp.	4.08	4.00	+ 0.06	0.51					
Abbey Fund Inc	100.00	100.00	-0.00	0.00	Intl Fund	100.00	109.70	+ 1.00	0.08	Small Cos Int'l	144.70	152.40	+ 0.20	8.84	Special Opp.	4.08	4.00	+ 0.06	0.51					
Abbey Fund Inc	100.00	100.00	-0.00	0.00	Intl Fund	100.00	109.70	+ 1.00	0.08	Small Cos Int'l	804.67	84.02	+ 0.12	8.84	Special Opp.	4.08	4.00	+ 0.06	0.51					
Abbey Fund Inc	100.00	100.00	-0.00	0.00	Intl Fund	100.00	109.70	+ 1.00	0.08	Small Cos Int'l	144.70	15												

.000	Ridgmar	221	Wmnd A	930
.100	Royal Ins	857	Wilms Hld	561
371	Ryi Bk Scrt	838	Willis Crm	1,300

لکذا من نیاصل

HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Staff with a say in policy

Employees work best if their aims match the company's. Michel Syrett describes the modern approach

Companies will meet the challenges of the 1990s only by carrying their staff with them, says Tony Barnes, the director of the Europe Japan Centre at Osaka Gas. Mr Barnes says the Japanese have a headstart because of their effective human resource strategies. Employees are encouraged to understand the business and to subscribe to its values, he says.

Mr Barnes is a key speaker at the conference organised by the Institute of Training and Development to mark Human Resource Development Week, the annual gathering of human resource managers and personnel specialists.

Managing change through creative personnel strategies is one of the conference's themes. Mr Barnes says Japanese workers perform better than Europeans because they are given a better understanding of the need for company growth, increased profits and wider markets, and have more

say in helping employers to achieve goals.

The Japanese approach is based on *kaizen*, which assumes that our way of life, at work or at home, deserves to be constantly improved. As a human resource strategy, *kaizen* means delegating decisions closer to the people who do the work, striving for consensus in all aspects of industrial policy, and ensuring that employees' goals are close to those of the business.

The ability to tap the creativity and ideas of individual workers has been a key feature of Japanese human resource strategies. Mr Barnes says: "Managers give the employees greater licence to be inventive, ensure they are trained and give them recognition when they succeed."

Mr Barnes names many Western companies that have adopted this philosophy of continuous improvement, including blue-chip enterprises such as ICL, ICI and Grand Metropolitan. Continuous



Involvement: Tony Barnes, left, shares company policy with employees at Osaka Gas

management development during the past ten years, for example, has helped to make ICL part of the world's second largest information technology consortium, says Andrew Mayo. ICL's personnel di-

rector, Mr Mayo says: "We wanted managers who were marketing-led, capable of taking a long-term view and able to encourage staff to be innovative and open-minded."

An important feature of

nise opportunities for growth in their jobs through special assignments, projects and secondments, ensure that managers can apply training quickly and provide constant reaction, guidance on career planning and support from in-house mentors.

Mr Barnes says ICL is proof that Japanese approaches are easily adapted by the West. "The changes taking place in business pose enormous challenges," he says. "It asks managers, 'Are you really using your human resource to its full capacity and tapping people for their ideas, imagination, vision and vitality?'"

• Andrew Mayo is the author of *Managing Careers - Strategies for Organisations*, published by the Institute of Personnel Management. The Human Resource Development Week Conference and Exhibition is from March 31 to April 2 at Wembley. It is organised on behalf of the Institute of Training and Development by Blenheim Marlborough. Tickets and further information from Justine Parkinson, Blenheim Marlborough, 630 Chiswick High Road, London W4 5BG (081-742 2828)

Cut the errors to cut the cost

MANY companies ask what they should do if they suffer from "quality drop" as they struggle to improve employee performance with new approaches to total quality management. Michel Syrett writes.

Quality drop, says Nigel Slack, professor of manufacturing at Warwick University, happens when businesses introduce total quality management with a fanfare but fail to build it into their objectives and personnel strategies.

Enthusiasm and the programme's effectiveness wane and managers and supervisors become cynical. Professor Slack says: "Too often, total quality management is seen as an end in itself, not a means to greater productivity and improvement. Senior directors swallow the theories of quality gurus whole without taking into account the attitude of their workforce and the individual circumstances of their own businesses."

Girobank has started initiatives to ensure that commitment to quality is kept alive in employees. The company runs annual workshops to inform staff of company expectations, and links bonuses and performance pay to quality objectives.

Keyboard errors are down by half, post office errors by 65 per cent, customer complaints by two-thirds and inventory costs by 38 per cent. Girobank was the first service company to win a British quality award. The savings since 1987 are £8 million.

Management therapy

The NHS is being treated with modern methods for its radical changes

The changes brought about by nearly a decade of continuous reform in the National Health Service have triggered a wide range of training and development initiatives, Michel Syrett writes. Some have been coordinated by the NHS Training Directorate and others by district health authorities and board members of the new trusts, who are creating the NHS strategic framework.

The most pressing short-term need has been for programmes to help the district health authorities and units such as hospitals or day-care centres to adapt to their new role as purchasers of health care services.

The management consultant KPMG, for example, has worked with regional health authorities, educating finance managers in new procedures and approaches using distance learning materials and roadshows led by senior NHS managers.

"A key issue has been the



At the forefront of health service reform: Dr Louise Fitzgerald and Ken Jarrold

devolution of financial responsibility to operating units," says Colin Carmichael, a KPMG partner. "The roadshows are catalysts, providing a framework for senior financial managers, who then cascade the information throughout the NHS."

The training directorate has also worked with leading UK business schools to give NHS managers general business skills, following the principles of the 1986 report, "Better Management, Better Health".

One of the most successful initiatives to emerge from the

report has been the Management Education Scheme by Open Learning (MESOL). Through a £2 million contract with the directorate, the Open Business School has given management training to more than 4,000 health professionals since March 1990.

Developed with the Institute of Health Service Management, the Open Business School course, Managing Health Services, is for NHS professionals in first-time management roles. Nurses, sisters, midwives, doctors, consultants and ambulance staff have taken part.

A second phase of the project for middle managers is being carried out by the Open Business School with polytechnics and regional health authorities. Six courses are planned during the next two years. The first, Managing Health Services Information and Finance and Managing Health Service Delivery, will be available from November.

Warwick Business School has an important role in the NHS training initiative. The school is the main centre for the NHS management training scheme, providing "fast-track" management education for graduate recruits. About 100 of the most capable young NHS managers have passed through the programme since it started in 1986.

The programme takes 22 months to complete and combines work experience with formal training and projects.

YOUR BIGGEST INVESTMENT IN TOMORROW IS THE PEOPLE YOU HAVE TODAY

THE EXHIBITION
Explore a wealth of ideas for training and improving your staff at the UK's leading business training forum.

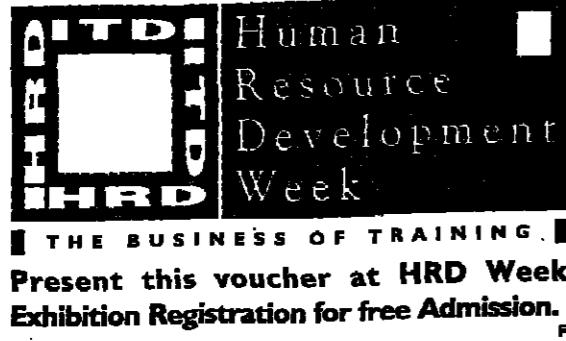
Plus: A full conference programme and free visitor seminars

WEMBLEY EXHIBITION & CONFERENCE CENTRE
Opening Times

Tuesday 31st March 0900-1730
Wednesday 1st April 0900-1730
Thursday 2nd April 0900-1700

For further details contact Justine Parkinson on

081 742 2828



**TOM PETERS,
CHARLES HANDY,
ROSABETH
MOSS KANTER &
MANY MORE**

Workshops on video from the world's best management communicators

CALL (UK) 071-6278404 x395
NOW



training

is a vital aspect of quality management. In 1992 resources are limited. Where are you going to get the help you need?

A key challenge for HR management in the '90s is to provide information quickly and accurately. Is your department up to the task? Or is it too weighed down with paperwork?

Not just a package a partnership

At Compel we are committed to providing you with all the support you need to run an effective, dynamic and flexible system.

For literature on integrated management solutions for HR administration, training and recruitment call Claire Roberts on 0628 89075 or write to:

Compel
THE PERSONNEL RESOURCE
Computers in Personnel Ltd.
Farm House, Crowth Lane, Marlow,
Bucks SL7 3HL

STAND 218
HUMAN RESOURCE
DEVELOPMENT WEEK

March 31st-April 2nd

Wembley Exhibition & Conference Centre

THE OPEN BUSINESS SCHOOL
Certificate Diploma MBA



MBA WITH BRITAIN'S LEADING PROGRAMME

Over 3,500 managers are currently studying on the Open Business School MBA, making it Britain's largest programme. And over 60% of entrants are sponsored by their organisations.

It's a modular programme with a range of options, which allows you to reach for an MBA without taking time off work. Last year, in a survey by the British Institute of Management, it was voted Britain's best distance learning programme.

Content and materials have been developed in consultation with practising managers and management education experts. And you can study anywhere in the UK, the EEC and increasingly, throughout the rest of Europe.

For a full prospectus, return the coupon or call the 24-hour OBS Hotline.

Customer Service Centre, The Open Business School, PO Box 625, Milton Keynes, MK1 1TY.
Please send me the Open Business School prospectus (MBA).

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms _____
Position _____
Organisation _____
Address _____
Postcode _____
Telephone _____

Save time by phoning the OBS Hotline
0908 653473/655182 (24 hours)

Trying to cope with the administrative burden of

★ STANDARDS is a computer based assessment management system which reduces the time involved in recording, collating and analysing performance data.

★ STANDARDS uses the DRS Optical Mark Reader for data input.

★ STANDARDS is a modular solution covering assessment, evaluation and report writing.

★ STANDARDS is designed for use in post 16 and vocational training.



Details can be obtained from Ginny McKee at DRS Data & Research Services plc, Sunrise Parkway, Lintford Wood, Milton Keynes, MK14 6LR. Telephone: 0908 666088, Telex: 825185 DRS G, Fax: 0908 607668.

Baldaro bemoans lack of BAF funding

Cross country gets a great mileage running on empty

BY DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

THERE is a belief in sport that you only get out of it what you put in. Not always. Take the case of the British Athletics Federation (BAF).

It puts next to nothing into cross country but has the best team in Europe; men and women who are the competitive equal of their counterparts on the track. Not that they are treated that way.

They prepared for the world championships in Boston last weekend with no financial support for training camps, medical back-up only for the select few who had proven themselves on the track, and, the final insult, a daily allowance a small fraction of that given to Britain's international athletics teams.

Bud Baldaro, the national coach for cross country, despairs of the attitude. He knows that no BAF initiative for support is likely, even after the results of the weekend, when the British squad yielded an individual gold medal, through Paula Radcliffe, and a set of senior men's team bronze medals.

Sooner or later somebody is going to put an end to Kenya's domination of the men's team events — senior champions for the last seven years, junior winners for the last five — and there is great prestige to be had in doing so. The British deserve to be given a better chance.

"We now have a world cross-country champion and I bet I will get back and be told it is not a marketable commodity," Baldaro said. All the energies of Alan Pascoe Associates (APA), the

marketing agency to the BAF, have been concentrated on track and field. The initiative to bring the world cross-country championships to Durham city in 1994 came from Brendan Foster's company, Nova International, though it eventually won BAF backing and was clinched by Andy Norman, its promotions officer.

Fed up with waiting for money to come in through BAF channels, Baldaro has taken the task upon himself and believes he is on the point of securing a £250,000 sponsorship to take British cross country up to the 1995 world championships in Durham. He envisages that as a glorious occasion and if he has to ruffle a few BAF feathers along the way, then so be it.

When he dared last November to go directly to APA, he was given not cash in hand but a rap on the knuckles. "It is not Bud Baldaro's job to be speaking to APA," the BAF said. He was advised to sub-

mit a development plan and did. The response? "I've not had any," he said. "If we cannot use our success here as a launching pad for 1995 we need a kick up the backside."

Meanwhile, Andrea Duke tries to find her way unaided through the medical jungle. Duke is an outstanding athlete, aged 18, she was the equal of Radcliffe before being struck by injury. Baldaro feels that, with Duke in the team, Britain's junior women, and not Ethiopia's, would have ended Kenya's run of team success. Yet her future is being left to chance.

She is not on the BAF register for medical help. "We need to make certain these people are being cared for," Baldaro urged. So, with no BAF hands to the shovel, he has started on the launching pad himself. The sponsorship that he is "reasonably optimistic" of securing would be spent on medical help and altitude training.

Commemorably, the BAF has this year strengthened its commitment to medical insurance, covering 200 athletes, twice as many as before. But you have to prove yourself as a track athlete first; if you do cross country as well, that's fine. And Baldaro wants holding camps for his squads before world championships.

Ken Rickhuss, chairman of the BAF cross country commission, is concerned also.

"The BAF has got to start thinking of us," he said. "We get less than one per cent of their total turnover." The medals brought back from Boston came on the cheap.

Baldaro: launching pad

CYCLING

League to spread its wings

BY PETER BRYAN

THE £2.7 million Scottish Provident city centre international racing league, which helped cycling to become the country's eleventh most popular televised sport in last year's third quarter, starts a new series of ten events in Leeds on May 13, with Jon Clay, the local rider, defending his title.

Clay, who led from start to finish last year, welcomed the spread of the venues, which include four newcomers in Peterborough, Brighton, Salisbury and Aberdeen, and the £50,000 prize-money.

The televised competition also includes a new element. Before the main 45-minute city-centre event, five selected riders will compete in a one-lap time-trial of the half-mile circuit for points in the overall event.

The organisers aim to have at least one overseas professional in every race, and regard the presence of Sean Kelly, the Irishman who leads the Perrier World Cup competition after winning the Milan-San Remo classic last week, as a priority.

PROGRAMME: May 13: Leeds; 15: Sheffield; 20: Peterborough; 21: Brighton; 22: Newcastle-upon-Tyne; 18: Bristol; 19: Salisbury; 20: Belfast; August 25: Aberdeen; 30: Edinburgh.

SPORT FOR THE DISABLED

Ski decision is a blow to Britain

BY ALIX RAMSAY

THE Winter Paralympics in France start today with problems over the organisation of the skiing events for blind athletes still unresolved.

Contrary to the International Blind Sports Association's regulations, the organisers in Tignes have combined the B2 and B3 classes in some of the Alpine and Nordic events. At the same time, they have prevented the blind skiers from competing in the men's downhill and slalom.

The official reasons for the decision come down to numbers. There were too few skiers entered for some classes in the giant slalom and super giant slalom while, in the downhill, there were too many entrants overall and the organisers felt they had to eliminate some competitors.

The decision was made by the International Co-ordinating Committee (ICC) together with the race organisers in France. "The events would have to be cancelled if there were not enough skiers," Joan Scruton of the ICC said. "In order to give the athletes the opportunity to compete we've combined the classes."

Zach Freeth, head of the British delegation, describes the move as "an absolute non-

sense" and the British will not be alone in making an official protest about the decision.

"It is bureaucracy gone mad," Freeth said. "Basically it means the person who can see the best, the B3, is competing against someone with a greater disadvantage. The B2s haven't a chance."

The decision has affected Britain's medal hopes. Richard Burt is a downhill and slalom specialist who won the bronze medal in both events at the 1990 world championships at the age of 16.

Two years later, having been unbeaten in Europe for the last two seasons, he had hoped to improve on that result in Tignes. But he has been relegated to just two events, the giant and super-giant slaloms.

The official reasons for the decision come down to numbers. There were too few skiers entered for some classes in the giant slalom and super giant slalom while, in the downhill, there were too many entrants overall and the organisers felt they had to eliminate some competitors.

The decision was made by the International Co-ordinating Committee (ICC) together with the race organisers in France. "The events would have to be cancelled if there were not enough skiers," Joan Scruton of the ICC said. "In order to give the athletes the opportunity to compete we've combined the classes."

Zach Freeth, head of the British delegation, describes the move as "an absolute non-

sense" and the British will not be alone in making an official protest about the decision.

"It is bureaucracy gone mad," Freeth said. "Basically it means the person who can see the best, the B3, is competing against someone with a greater disadvantage. The B2s haven't a chance."

The decision has affected Britain's medal hopes. Richard Burt is a downhill and slalom specialist who won the bronze medal in both events at the 1990 world championships at the age of 16.

Two years later, having been unbeaten in Europe for the last two seasons, he had hoped to improve on that result in Tignes. But he has been relegated to just two events, the giant and super-giant slaloms.

While he carries on training, his family is less than impressed with the organisers. "I can't understand their thinking," Robert Burt, Richard's father, said.

"Richard races and trains with able-bodied skiers all the time and he's reaching 70mph plus in the downhill. It's not as if blind skiers can't do the downhill. And combining the classes is like asking Dave Moorcroft to do the high hurdles."

While he carries on training, his family is less than impressed with the organisers. "I can't understand their thinking," Robert Burt, Richard's father, said.

"Richard races and trains with able-bodied skiers all the time and he's reaching 70mph plus in the downhill. It's not as if blind skiers can't do the downhill. And combining the classes is like asking Dave Moorcroft to do the high hurdles."

A year ago in this column, when I reviewed indoor rock-climbing from Birmingham, I warned that indoor hang-gliding was next. Channel 4 on Saturday morning had indoor windsurfing. Actually it was quite fun and looked a lot safer than the real thing.

I don't want to whinge about how rain helped England into the cricket World Cup final. Frankly, I couldn't care less: rules is rules, every-

one knew about them beforehand: nobody ever said it was always meant to be fair and, anyway, South Africa took a chance. Fielded first, didn't bowl enough overs, and really have only themselves to blame. So there.

What worries me is the way England bowled and fielded. I have seen better long hops in a Lord's Taverners' match than those bowled by Botham and Small. I have seen under-11s field with more enthusiasm than Lamb; and if Stewart doesn't know that a wicketkeeper either stands right up or fully back, he should get someone to give him an hour's coaching on the basic principles. And what was Gooch doing fielding on the boundary? In one-day cricket, even more than in the real game, the captain's position is as close to the action as possible. Nevertheless, I hope England win.

Saturday's rugby coverage was remarkable for what Bill McLaren did not say when at least one Welsh forward should have been sent off the

pitch at Cardiff Arms Park during the game against Scotland. Two French players were sent off a month ago for exactly the same type of behaviour, and all the referee did was wag a finger and the great Bill said was a sort of stifled "tut-tut". All I can assure is that McLaren sometimes despairs of what he sees happening on the field of his beloved rugby football.

Channel 4 has stolen another march on the BBC's



Riding high: Edginton, with backing and a world title, is in confident mood

Edginton catches a gust of impetus for Olympics

BY BARRY PICKTHALL

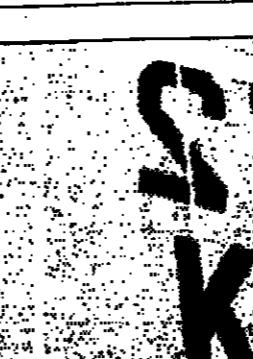
BARRIE Edginton, the new Olympic-class windsurfing world champion, has received a second filip towards his Olympic Games aspirations — a Times/Minet Supreme Award.

The £5,000 cash grant follows Edginton's superb performance in Singapore, where he ended nine years of world domination by the French. Indeed, French competitors filled the next four places, underlining that country's continued strength in depth.

"Beating four Frenchmen in the world championship makes the Olympics [where only one national can take part] look easy," Edginton, who last week was a close second at the Italian pre-Olympic regatta at Anzio, said.

He knows from bitter experience, however, that there can be many a slip between now and winning selection for Barcelona in July. Four years ago, Edginton lost the Olympic berths on a cruel windshift while leading the last race of the British trials. Tied on points with two rivals, he built up a four-minute lead during the heat and was then faced with the dilemma of trying to cover both sailors when they split back to racing.

Edginton, who began windsurfing at the age of 11, first made his name as a marathon racer, capping



Duke: launching pad

victories in all the main British endurance races by winning the BIC 1,000km marathon from Barcelona to Genoa two years ago. He is also a three-time BIC class world champion.

Barrie is very good endurance competitor, a follow-on from his cross-country running days at school, and his ability to rise to the big occasion must make him a strong bet for a medal in Barcelona.

Oakley said.

First he must sail through the British trials at the pre-Olympic regattas off Hyeres and Palma next month, which conclude with the world championship at Cadiz in May. "The Times/Minet award will certainly help to ease the financial pressures, allowing me to focus all my efforts on training for the trials," Edginton said.

The Times/Minet Supreme Awards are part of a £2 million sponsorship package from Minet — the London-based firm of international insurance brokers — to help fund Britain's preparations for the Olympic Games this year. The awards, which are administered by the Sports Aid Foundation, are being made to sportsmen and women whose outstanding performances have brought distinction and honour to British sport and are likely medal contenders.

The London club, which

plays off with Woolwich Brixton in the league title decider on April 5, is unhappy at the venue and the way previous Supercups have been organised by the English Volleyball Association.

The event will take place on April 11 and 12 at Reading University, where there is limited spectator space.

BRITANNIA

Music, who retained the Royal Bank of Scotland English Women's Cup at Crystal Palace last Saturday, have pulled out of next month's Supercup, the annual tournament for the top four teams in both the men's and women's first divisions (Roddy McKenzie writes).

The London club, which

plays off with Woolwich Brixton in the league title decider on April 5, is unhappy at the venue and the way previous Supercups have been organised by the English Volleyball Association.

The event will take place on April 11 and 12 at Reading University, where there is limited spectator space.

BRITANNIA

Music, who retained the Royal Bank of Scotland English Women's Cup at Crystal Palace last Saturday, have pulled out of next month's Supercup, the annual tournament for the top four teams in both the men's and women's first divisions (Roddy McKenzie writes).

The London club, which

plays off with Woolwich Brixton in the league title decider on April 5, is unhappy at the venue and the way previous Supercups have been organised by the English Volleyball Association.

The event will take place on April 11 and 12 at Reading University, where there is limited spectator space.

BRITANNIA

Music, who retained the Royal Bank of Scotland English Women's Cup at Crystal Palace last Saturday, have pulled out of next month's Supercup, the annual tournament for the top four teams in both the men's and women's first divisions (Roddy McKenzie writes).

The London club, which

plays off with Woolwich Brixton in the league title decider on April 5, is unhappy at the venue and the way previous Supercups have been organised by the English Volleyball Association.

The event will take place on April 11 and 12 at Reading University, where there is limited spectator space.

BRITANNIA

Music, who retained the Royal Bank of Scotland English Women's Cup at Crystal Palace last Saturday, have pulled out of next month's Supercup, the annual tournament for the top four teams in both the men's and women's first divisions (Roddy McKenzie writes).

The London club, which

plays off with Woolwich Brixton in the league title decider on April 5, is unhappy at the venue and the way previous Supercups have been organised by the English Volleyball Association.

The event will take place on April 11 and 12 at Reading University, where there is limited spectator space.

BRITANNIA

Music, who retained the Royal Bank of Scotland English Women's Cup at Crystal Palace last Saturday, have pulled out of next month's Supercup, the annual tournament for the top four teams in both the men's and women's first divisions (Roddy McKenzie writes).

The London club, which

plays off with Woolwich Brixton in the league title decider on April 5, is unhappy at the venue and the way previous Supercups have been organised by the English Volleyball Association.

The event will take place on April 11 and 12 at Reading University, where there is limited spectator space.

BRITANNIA

Music, who retained the Royal Bank of Scotland English Women's Cup at Crystal Palace last Saturday, have pulled out of next month's Supercup, the annual tournament for the top four teams in both the men's and women's first divisions (Roddy McKenzie writes).

The London club, which

plays off with Woolwich Brixton in the league title decider on April 5, is unhappy at the venue and the way previous Supercups have been organised by the English Volleyball Association.

The event will take place on April 11 and 12 at Reading University, where there is limited spectator space.

BRITANNIA

Music, who retained the Royal Bank of Scotland English Women's Cup at Crystal Palace last Saturday, have pulled out of next month's Supercup, the annual tournament for the top four teams in both the men's and women's first divisions (Roddy McKenzie writes).

The London club, which

plays off with Woolwich Brixton in the league title decider on April 5, is unhappy at the venue and the way previous Supercups have been organised by the English Volleyball Association.

The event will take place on April 11 and 12 at Reading University, where there is limited spectator space.

BRITANNIA

Music, who

**zie's plan
nds on a
ing win**

Frustrating wait for betting duty benefit

BY RICHARD EVANS, RACING CORRESPONDENT

RACING will almost certainly have to wait until the summer of 1993 before it receives the £13 million flowing from the budget day cut in betting duty.

Although the Chancellor's measure comes into force at the beginning of next month, the levy system means bookmakers do not have to hand over the extra millions until May next year.

The setback, which will delay a much-needed increase to prize-money, coincided with the publication of a survey yesterday by the Racehorse Owners' Association (ROA), which showed that 40 per cent of successful owners plan to decrease their string — or withdraw from the sport altogether — due to poor prize-money and high training costs.

The 0.25 per cent cut in betting duty, worth an esti-

mated £13 million, enabled Kenneth Baker to announce that the levy for 1992-3 will be an estimated £48 million, compared to an expected £35 million this financial year.

The Levy Board is planning discussions with the Bookmakers' Committee to see if a voluntary agreement can be reached on payments "over and above" the statutory requirements.

The chances of bookmakers agreeing to pay over the extra money before May 1993 are slim if the attitude of Ladbrokes is anything to go by.

Boris Daver, managing director of Ladbrokes Racing, yesterday effectively ruled out making early payments. "I cannot see any great prospect of it," he said.

John Biggs, director general of the ROA, said: "There is certainly a good moral argument for some agreement being reached between the two parties to pay money in excess of the statutory figure."

The ROA survey on successful owners who own horses that have won three races or more than £10,000 makes dismal reading.

A total of 334 owners completed questionnaires. Over 50 per cent of those with 11 or more years in racing are proposing to decrease their involvement, while four out of five owners with between 11 and 20 horses are also planning cutbacks.

But the most alarming statistic involves the 125 owners who intend to decrease their string or withdraw from racing altogether.

The main reasons given were training costs, poor prize-money (cut by £8.7 million in 1992) and the current economic climate.

Canine friends catered for in Newbury's development

NEWBURY racecourse will soon be host to four-legged events of a different nature — canine as opposed to equine (Richard Evans writes).

One hundred Kennel Club shows are part of the Berkshire course's plans for the future to coincide with the £14 million building development at the track.

The £10 million Berkshire stand is due to be ready for use by October and, apart from offering vastly improved facilities for racers, the extra 10,000 square feet will also be used for outside conferences and exhibitions.

Death of racing's Grand Old Man marks end of an era

BY JACK WATERMAN

JIM Joel, who died at the age of 97 on Monday night at his home at Childwick Bury, near St Albans, was undoubtedly the very definition of the Grand Old Man of Racing.

Yet this inescapable phrase goes only so far towards encapsulating the persona of a man whose "black, scarlet cap" were not simply among the best-known colours on the Turf but were just about the most popular.

A modest and unassuming bachelor and member of the Jockey Club, his success as owner and breeder was the stuff of legend spanning almost half a century. He was one of the very few to have owned a Derby winner and Grand National winner — Royal Pal-

ace in 1967 and Maori Venture in 1987.

He enjoyed an astonishing 26 Royal Ascot victories and owned a host of well-remembered horses such as the evergreen stayers Premonition, the crack miler Major Portion, and Connaught, who so nearly secured a second Derby in succession for his owner.

Yesterday the warm and well-justified tributes flooded in. Josh Gifford, who trained more than 50 winners for him over the jumps, said: "It is very, very sad that he had a wonderful life. He was a very good friend to racing and a very good friend of mine. I will miss him immensely."

Andy Turnell, Maori Venture's trainer, said: "He was the most marvellous

owner, and this is sad news. My best memory of him will be the morning after the National when he came to see the horse and all the staff. He was wonderful."

Joel's last winner was a fortnight ago when Keep Talking took the National Hunt Chase, his tenth Cheltenham festival success.

Last November, despite failing sight, he appeared at Sandown, his favourite course. Buck Willow, trained by Gifford, made all the running and the crowd broke into spontaneous applause in the winner's enclosure. It was a final touching tribute to a man whose death marks the end of an era.

Obituary, page 15

John's Birthday to celebrate

JOHN'S Birthday, a former Marlborough Novices' entry, is napped to gain consolation in the Sonny Somers Handicap Chase at Worcester today.

The Nicky Henderson-trained gelding is so far out of the Aintree handicap that hopes of running in the big event have been quashed.

However, John's Birthday can now take advantage of his limited handicap mark and proven stamina.

Deep Colonist, who disappointed in the Angels National when pulled up three from home, will be a serious danger if he returns to form. But, I feel the concession of 19lb will prove too much.

Before falling at Stratford, John's Birthday performed with plenty of encouragement when third behind David's Dukly at Warwick. David's Dukly then went on to capture the Eider Chase at Newcastle.

Also running in that Warwick contest was Topsham

at Cheltenham, but he was never a serious factor behind Flown.

At Newton Abbot, on his previous outing, he put up a remarkable performance when returning after a three-year break to beat Irish Bay by half-a-length.

Charterforhardware can complete a double for Pipe in the Borchester Novices' Hurdle. At Cheltenham, the gelding failed to show his form behind Tiverton Forest.

Prior to that, he had shown useful form when runner-up to Horblower at Market Rasen and Fino at Towcester. He will appreciate today's trip of three miles, which he encounters for the first time.

At Catterick, The Devil's Music can continue Lynda Ramsden's excellent run of success. Over today's course and distance on his penultimate outing, the gelding failed by head to catch Gor's Desire in a competitive handicap.

I expect the danger today to come from the Martin Pipe-trained Cypharite, who looked an unlucky loser when falling at the last fence at Haydock.

Pipe, however, can be on the mark with Barry Window in the Levy Board Novices' Handicap Hurdle. The gelding was strongly fancied in the Supreme Novices' Hurdle

at Cheeltenham, but he was never a serious factor behind Flown.

At Newton Abbot, on his previous outing, he put up a remarkable performance when returning after a three-year break to beat Irish Bay by half-a-length.

Charterforhardware can complete a double for Pipe in the Borchester Novices' Hurdle. At Cheltenham, the gelding failed to show his form behind Tiverton Forest.

Prior to that, he had shown useful form when runner-up to Horblower at Market Rasen and Fino at Towcester. He will appreciate today's trip of three miles, which he encounters for the first time.

At Catterick, The Devil's Music can continue Lynda Ramsden's excellent run of success. Over today's course and distance on his penultimate outing, the gelding failed by head to catch Gor's Desire in a competitive handicap.

I expect the danger today to come from the Martin Pipe-trained Cypharite, who looked an unlucky loser when falling at the last fence at Haydock.

Pipe, however, can be on the mark with Barry Window in the Levy Board Novices' Handicap Hurdle. The gelding was strongly fancied in the Supreme Novices' Hurdle

at Cheeltenham, but he was never a serious factor behind Flown.

At Newton Abbot, on his previous outing, he put up a remarkable performance when returning after a three-year break to beat Irish Bay by half-a-length.

Charterforhardware can complete a double for Pipe in the Borchester Novices' Hurdle. At Cheltenham, the gelding failed to show his form behind Tiverton Forest.

Prior to that, he had shown useful form when runner-up to Horblower at Market Rasen and Fino at Towcester. He will appreciate today's trip of three miles, which he encounters for the first time.

At Catterick, The Devil's Music can continue Lynda Ramsden's excellent run of success. Over today's course and distance on his penultimate outing, the gelding failed by head to catch Gor's Desire in a competitive handicap.

I expect the danger today to come from the Martin Pipe-trained Cypharite, who looked an unlucky loser when falling at the last fence at Haydock.

Pipe, however, can be on the mark with Barry Window in the Levy Board Novices' Handicap Hurdle. The gelding was strongly fancied in the Supreme Novices' Hurdle

at Cheeltenham, but he was never a serious factor behind Flown.

At Newton Abbot, on his previous outing, he put up a remarkable performance when returning after a three-year break to beat Irish Bay by half-a-length.

Charterforhardware can complete a double for Pipe in the Borchester Novices' Hurdle. At Cheltenham, the gelding failed to show his form behind Tiverton Forest.

Prior to that, he had shown useful form when runner-up to Horblower at Market Rasen and Fino at Towcester. He will appreciate today's trip of three miles, which he encounters for the first time.

At Catterick, The Devil's Music can continue Lynda Ramsden's excellent run of success. Over today's course and distance on his penultimate outing, the gelding failed by head to catch Gor's Desire in a competitive handicap.

I expect the danger today to come from the Martin Pipe-trained Cypharite, who looked an unlucky loser when falling at the last fence at Haydock.

Pipe, however, can be on the mark with Barry Window in the Levy Board Novices' Handicap Hurdle. The gelding was strongly fancied in the Supreme Novices' Hurdle

at Cheeltenham, but he was never a serious factor behind Flown.

At Newton Abbot, on his previous outing, he put up a remarkable performance when returning after a three-year break to beat Irish Bay by half-a-length.

Charterforhardware can complete a double for Pipe in the Borchester Novices' Hurdle. At Cheltenham, the gelding failed to show his form behind Tiverton Forest.

Prior to that, he had shown useful form when runner-up to Horblower at Market Rasen and Fino at Towcester. He will appreciate today's trip of three miles, which he encounters for the first time.

At Catterick, The Devil's Music can continue Lynda Ramsden's excellent run of success. Over today's course and distance on his penultimate outing, the gelding failed by head to catch Gor's Desire in a competitive handicap.

I expect the danger today to come from the Martin Pipe-trained Cypharite, who looked an unlucky loser when falling at the last fence at Haydock.

Pipe, however, can be on the mark with Barry Window in the Levy Board Novices' Handicap Hurdle. The gelding was strongly fancied in the Supreme Novices' Hurdle

at Cheeltenham, but he was never a serious factor behind Flown.

At Newton Abbot, on his previous outing, he put up a remarkable performance when returning after a three-year break to beat Irish Bay by half-a-length.

Charterforhardware can complete a double for Pipe in the Borchester Novices' Hurdle. At Cheltenham, the gelding failed to show his form behind Tiverton Forest.

Prior to that, he had shown useful form when runner-up to Horblower at Market Rasen and Fino at Towcester. He will appreciate today's trip of three miles, which he encounters for the first time.

At Catterick, The Devil's Music can continue Lynda Ramsden's excellent run of success. Over today's course and distance on his penultimate outing, the gelding failed by head to catch Gor's Desire in a competitive handicap.

I expect the danger today to come from the Martin Pipe-trained Cypharite, who looked an unlucky loser when falling at the last fence at Haydock.

Pipe, however, can be on the mark with Barry Window in the Levy Board Novices' Handicap Hurdle. The gelding was strongly fancied in the Supreme Novices' Hurdle

at Cheeltenham, but he was never a serious factor behind Flown.

At Newton Abbot, on his previous outing, he put up a remarkable performance when returning after a three-year break to beat Irish Bay by half-a-length.

Charterforhardware can complete a double for Pipe in the Borchester Novices' Hurdle. At Cheltenham, the gelding failed to show his form behind Tiverton Forest.

Prior to that, he had shown useful form when runner-up to Horblower at Market Rasen and Fino at Towcester. He will appreciate today's trip of three miles, which he encounters for the first time.

At Catterick, The Devil's Music can continue Lynda Ramsden's excellent run of success. Over today's course and distance on his penultimate outing, the gelding failed by head to catch Gor's Desire in a competitive handicap.

I expect the danger today to come from the Martin Pipe-trained Cypharite, who looked an unlucky loser when falling at the last fence at Haydock.

Pipe, however, can be on the mark with Barry Window in the Levy Board Novices' Handicap Hurdle. The gelding was strongly fancied in the Supreme Novices' Hurdle

at Cheeltenham, but he was never a serious factor behind Flown.

At Newton Abbot, on his previous outing, he put up a remarkable performance when returning after a three-year break to beat Irish Bay by half-a-length.

Charterforhardware can complete a double for Pipe in the Borchester Novices' Hurdle. At Cheltenham, the gelding failed to show his form behind Tiverton Forest.

Prior to that, he had shown useful form when runner-up to Horblower at Market Rasen and Fino at Towcester. He will appreciate today's trip of three miles, which he encounters for the first time.

At Catterick, The Devil's Music can continue Lynda Ramsden's excellent run of success. Over today's course and distance on his penultimate outing, the gelding failed by head to catch Gor's Desire in a competitive handicap.

I expect the danger today to come from the Martin Pipe-trained Cypharite, who looked an unlucky loser when falling at the last fence at Haydock.

Pipe, however, can be on the mark with Barry Window in the Levy Board Novices' Handicap Hurdle. The gelding was strongly fancied in the Supreme Novices' Hurdle

at Cheeltenham, but he was never a serious factor behind Flown.

At Newton Abbot, on his previous outing, he put up a remarkable performance when returning after a three-year break to beat Irish Bay by half-a-length.

Charterforhardware can complete a double for Pipe in the Borchester Novices' Hurdle. At Cheltenham, the gelding failed to show his form behind Tiverton Forest.

Prior to that, he had shown useful form when runner-up to Horblower at Market Rasen and Fino at Towcester. He will appreciate today's trip of three miles, which he encounters for the first time.

At Catterick, The Devil's Music can continue Lynda Ramsden's excellent run of success. Over today's course and distance on his penultimate outing, the gelding failed by head to catch Gor's Desire in a competitive handicap.

I expect the danger today to come from the Martin Pipe-trained Cypharite, who looked an unlucky loser when falling at the last fence at Haydock.

Pipe, however, can be on the mark with Barry Window in the Levy Board Novices' Handicap Hurdle. The gelding was strongly fancied in the Supreme Novices' Hurdle

at Cheeltenham, but he was never a serious factor behind Flown.

At Newton Abbot, on his previous outing, he put up a remarkable performance when returning after a three-year break to beat Irish Bay by half-a-length.

Charterforhardware can complete a double for Pipe in the Borchester Novices' Hurdle. At Cheltenham, the gelding failed to show his form behind Tiverton Forest.

Prior to that, he had shown useful form when runner-up to Horblower at Market Rasen and Fino at Towcester. He will appreciate today's trip of three miles, which he encounters for the first time.

At Catterick, The Devil's Music can continue Lynda Ramsden's excellent run of success. Over today's course and distance on his penultimate outing, the gelding failed by head to catch Gor's Desire in a competitive handicap.

I expect the danger today to come from the Martin Pipe-trained Cypharite, who looked an unlucky loser when falling at the last fence at Haydock.

Pipe, however, can be on the mark with Barry Window in the Levy Board Novices' Handicap Hurdle. The gelding was strongly fancied in the Supreme Novices' Hurdle

at Cheeltenham, but he was never a serious factor behind Flown.

At Newton Abbot, on his previous outing, he put up a remarkable performance when returning after a three-year break to beat Irish Bay by half-a-length.

- RACING 26, 27
- CRICKET 28
- FOOTBALL 29

THE TIMES SPORT

WEDNESDAY MARCH 25 1992

Football offered £500m TV deal

BY LOUISE TAYLOR

FOOTBALL has been offered £50 million a year for ten years by a satellite television company that wants to broadcast the sport 24 hours a day. Rick Parry, the chief executive of the Premier League, confirmed yesterday that he is negotiating with Full Time Communications, a company set up to mount the bid.

The company is also talking to the Football Association (FA), and Football League, and hopes to put the finishing touches on the contract next week. Full Time Communications, run by Gerald O'Connell - who invented the successful Clubcall concept - and Jim Cadman, intends to run on the Astra satellite and be

funded by subscription - likely to be £10 per month.

Recordings of matches in the Premier League, Football League, and England's international programme would be shown constantly. Yet the agreement would not be exclusive, thereby leaving the door open for ITV, whose contract with the League expires this summer, and the BBC, whose deal with the FA runs out next year, to continue to show live matches.

The way is also clear for football to earn unprecedented riches and - divided between the interested parties, but with the Premier League taking the lion's share - it could provide a solution to the dispute between the Premier League and the Professional Footballers' Association (PFA).

Negotiations are understood to have begun in December, and Parry yesterday said that he had "just signed" a confidentiality agreement on the proposals, details of which were faxed to all 22 first division clubs. The television package was originally due to be presented to a meeting of the 22 potential Premier League chairman on Friday, but, with a players strike looming, Parry said that was no longer the case.

"In the past, I believe television has used football," O'Connell, who has presented interested parties with a promotional video of the package he has in mind, added. "But this is a chance for football to use television to market itself. Like Clubcall, its strength will be the comprehensive nature of the service."

Trevor Phillips, the League's commercial director, is understood to have been involved in discussions from the outset.

Full Time Communica-

tions is not, however, negotiating with the PFA at present, but O'Connell said: "The PFA is a voice within football and we want to talk to all voices within football."

At present the PFA receives ten per cent from the ITV agreement and is threatening to strike because the Premier League's negotiations with the established television companies have so far excluded them from a share of the profits.

Another body to have also talked to Full Time Communications is the English Schools' Football Association (ESFA) and its matches are also likely to be broadcast.

The concept goes against the belief of ITV that the public only wants live football. In many respects, it is

an expanded version of the old BBC Saturday night *Match of the Day*.

O'Connell thought of the concept when, while running Clubcall for British Telecom, he realised a high percentage of callers to individual clubs dialled from far flung parts of the country.

"Our satellite channel will therefore enable Barnsley supporters who live in London to watch those of their matches which they could not get to," he said.

He does not want to subdivide football by signing up solely with the Premier League, for example. "People are not just interested in the Premier League or just interested in the third division. They are interested in the game of football as a whole."

MARC ASPLAND

England team has an adventurous look

Taylor decides to try a more adaptable style

FROM STUART JONES
FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT
IN PRAGUE

THE transformation of Paul Merson's career is about to be completed. Eighteen months ago, the versatile Arsenal forward was seriously contemplating retiring prematurely from football and seeking alternative employment in a Spanish bar. Today, he will make his full debut for England here against Czechoslovakia.

Five days after celebrating his 24th birthday, Merson will lead the front line with Mark Hateley, who will also be ending his own rehabilitation. In spite of the absence of the ailing captain, Gary Lineker, the line-up is the most attacking selected so far by Graham Taylor.

His welcome sense of adventure goes far beyond making seven changes, only two of which were enforced by injuries. In designing an essentially flexible formation, he has indicated that England will in future no longer de-

CZECHOSLOVAKIA: L Mirkoski (West Ham United); M Kadlec (Kasparov); V Hrabaek (Sporting Prague); M Gajda (Sporting Prague); J Cerny (Sport Prague); P Hapel (Sigma Olomouc); M Blatka (Real Salt Lake); J Nejedly (Sparta Prague); T Sobotka (Sparta Prague); Genes (Genoa); I Kralovec (Bohumil).

ENGLAND: D Seaman (Arsenal); D Rocastle (Arsenal); M Keown (Everton); S Maturana (Tottenham Hotspur); Peter Water (Nottingham Forest); D Platt (Birr); J Barnes (Liverpool); N Clough (Nottingham Forest); P Robinson (Arsenal); M Hasselbaink (Bengtsson).

Referee: G Kape (Austria).

serve to be regarded as stereotyped and predictable.

No side could be with the likes of David Platt, Nigel Clough and John Barnes at its core. Although there must be reservations about their collective defensive work, each is individually capable of penetrating the strongest opposition with either an unexpected run (Platt's speciality), pass (Clough's) or both (Barnes').

The midfield trio will be supported by Stuart Pearce, retained as captain, and

David Rocastle, who would have occupied the right flank against France last month had he been available. "With three central defenders" Taylor explains, "you don't need to use two full backs and play with five at the back".

The tactic, which was over-employed by Bobby Robson during the last World Cup, is excessively cautious since modern attacks, like Czechoslovakia's today, feature only two forwards. Yet Rocastle must demonstrate that he can protect England more securely than was the case recently against Spain B.

The idea is to raise the standard of distribution (which is not the greatest quality of Paul Parker, Robson's right back in Italy) from the wings. If nothing else, England promise to be appreciably more inventive than they have been since losing Paul Gascoigne.

The policy may carry an element of risk but it is both worthwhile and deliberate. "I couldn't bring people in while we were qualifying for the European championship finals," Taylor said. "That might have damaged their careers before they started. Now I can clear the decks."

"There is a lot of movement within this basic formation... I want us to show that the players are adaptable enough to operate in different areas and be threatening without losing our shape or our balance."

The enthusiasm of those chosen was unmistakable and none more so than Merson, who was so lacking in motivation and direction towards the end of 1990 that he telephoned his father and told him: "I'm going to pack it in. I don't want to know any more." Urged to give himself another chance, he responded and his manager, George Graham, guided him through "a nightmare patch".

He joined Hateley, returning after an absence of four years, and Barnes in describing the team as "exciting and suited to attacking players". Whether England, who will first watch the World Cup cricket final on television, can adequately defend themselves against the runners-up to France in the European championship qualifying group is another matter.

Even taking into account Cambridge's problems on a day when they were not over-



Current affairs: Oxford prepare for the Boat Race on the Thames yesterday

Gardiner sets Oxford pace

SINCE making three changes after their poor performance at the Reading Head, Oxford have delighted their coaches by making remarkable progress (Mike Rosewell writes).

Much of the improvement stems from the inclusion at stroke of Ian Gardiner, from Glasgow, who learns his rowing at Oxford and led their development crew at Henley last year. Cal Maclellan, Peter Bridge and Hamish Hume, blues in 1991, are clearly enjoying Gardiner's rhythm and Simon Davy, who looked suspect behind Joe Michals at Reading, is more controlled.

Cambridge have no more fixtures against leading opponents, whereas Oxford will race a series of three-minute pieces this morning against

Leander, arguably one of the best crews in Europe.

Cambridge are experiencing problems in the crucial week before the Boat Race.

Dan Justic, their six man, had a stiff back and was rested yesterday and, with their German stroke-man, Dirk Bangert, also below par, Cambridge limited themselves to one light morning session in rough water and cancelled their afternoon race with London University, who were beaten by Oxford on Saturday. Justic is unlikely to return to the crew before Thursday.

Cambridge have no more fixtures against leading opponents, whereas Oxford will race a series of three-minute pieces this morning against

Leander, arguably one of the best crews in Europe.

BOAT RACE CREWS: OXFORD: K K Poole (Magdalen College School and St John's), bow; S E Goss (Oxford University); B Mava (Merton College, Bristol, Imperial College, London, and Jesus); H P M Williams (Jesus); C J Clegg (Jesus); A J Bridge (Eton and Osell); C A Maclellan (Eton Hill GS, Birmingham, and Green); S G Davy (Eton and Westgate); and S P O'Farrell, stroke: H E Clark (Haberdashers AS and Charter Church), cox: CAMBRIDGE: A J R Justic (Eton and Robinson); D R M Justic (Jesus); G J Hinchliffe (Jesus); H Hinchliffe (GS and Jesus); D R Gardiner (Jesus); G J Gardiner (Jesus); C G Hume (Jesus); C G Hume (Jesus); Hamptons GS and Jesus; H J Barnes (Harrow, Reading University and Downing); D R Groom (Bedford Modern and St Edmund's); D J Fawcett (Jesus); Cambridge University and Magdalene; D R M Justic (Harvard University and Sydney Sussex); S L Fowler (Eton and Robinson); D E Thompson (Downing); G J Gardiner (Jesus); G J Gardiner (Jesus); and P G W Probert (University College School, King's College London, and Magdalene), cox: * a blue.

TODAY'S OUTGOING: Cambridge 10am and 3.30pm; Oxford 10.30am (with Leander) and 3.30pm.

Conflict in sight over aims of PE

BY JOHN GOODBODY

THE Sports Council and the Central Council of Physical Recreation (CCPR) yesterday clashed over the objectives of the PE programme in state schools.

The Sports Council stated in a consultation document that: "In the past, some sports have looked to schools to produce their future performers. This is clearly not a major objective of the PE programme."

However, Nigel Hook, senior technical officer of the

CCPR, said that the national governing bodies would look towards the PE programme to develop sporting opportunities at all levels. "One of the main objectives of PE is to develop and coach young people in sport and to deny that right is to deny the right to become sporting champions."

The council, whose document was published at the Recreational Management Conference, at Birmingham, will circulate it to national governing bodies which are represented by the CCPR.

The document accepted that sport and physical education were not the same but pointed out that they were "inter-linked". Therefore, sports and dance organisations were rightly concerned about PE curriculum content and that sufficient time and resources were allocated to it.

It said: "A good PE programme provides the baseline from which sports activity for life can flourish and excellence emerge."

One of the main problems about sport in state schools is

the wish of almost all governing bodies for their sports not only to be available in schools but even to be compulsory. Another difficulty is that far too often schools select sports and activities because of tradition or whims of the PE staff rather than what is the most appropriate for their pupils.

The report, which is meant to be complementary to the national curriculum, is entitled *Young People and Sport* and concentrates on their activities out of school and after they leave education.

Officials reject Imran's plea for rule change

FROM ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT
IN MELBOURNE

Derek Pringle, who missed the semi-final with a rib muscle injury and was initially expected to take no further part in the tournament, came through a lengthy bowl in the nets yesterday and was hopeful of playing. Both he and Robin Smith would undergo final tests before the start.

An impassioned plea by Imran Khan, the Pakistan captain to continue the final if rain interrupted, was predictably turned down after a meeting involving Australian Cricket Board executives and the managers of the two finalists. Bob Bennett, the England manager, emerged satisfied, saying he believed it illogical to "move the goalposts" at this stage. "We knew the rules when we came here," he pointed out.

Imran's criticism of the competition, which he called the worst organised of cricket's five World Cups, brought a sharp response from Graham Halibut, general manager of the ACB and their most eloquent spokesman.

"That is an unfair statement," he said. "He is entitled to express an opinion about playing conditions but for the benefit of all the people throughout Australia and New Zealand who have given up a tremendous amount of time, I hope he is not talking about their efforts."

Fears that the final could be decided in the same shamless fashion as Sunday's semi-final in Sydney were eased by a confident forecast of dry, fine weather for Melbourne today.

Brian Aldridge, from New Zealand, was yesterday named ahead of Steve Randall to umpire the final with the impressively calm Jamaican, Steve Bucknor.

The sad side page 28
John Woodcock, page 28

WORLD CUP FINAL SCOREBOARD

Melbourne Cricket Ground, March 25 1992
won toss.

ENGLAND		
Team from:	How out	Runs
• "A Gooch (Essex)	7 matches, 187 runs (av 26.71), 1c.	
• T Botham (Durham)		
9 matches, 122 runs (av 24.00), 15 wkt (av 17.00, econ 3.22), 3c.		
• A J Stewart (Sussex)	9 matches, 252 runs (av 42.00), 7c, 1st.	
• R A Smith (Hampshire)	8 matches, 193 runs (av 32.16), 3c.	
• G Hick (Worcestershire)	9 matches, 247 runs (av 35.26), 2 wkt (av 35.00, econ 4.88), 5c.	
• N H Fairbrother (Lancashire)	9 matches, 223 runs (av 55.75), 6c.	
• A J Lamb (Northamptonshire)	3 matches, 48 runs (av 16.00), 1c.	
• C C Lewis (Nottinghamshire)	8 matches, 81 runs (av 27.00), 7 wkt (av 23.14, econ 3.96), 4c.	
• D A Reeve (Warwickshire)	8 matches, 64 runs (av 84.00), 8 wkt (av 13.00, econ 3.26), 5c.	
• P A J DeFreitas (Lancashire)	9 matches, 6 runs (av 2.00), 11 wkt (av 25.18, econ 3.86), 5 c.	
• D R Pringle (Essex)	7 matches, 42 runs (av 10.00), 4 wkt (av 49.00, econ 3.46), 2c.	
• R K Illingworth (Nottinghamshire)	5 matches, 13 runs (av 12.00), 7 wkt (av 28.57, econ 4.15), 2c.	
• G C Small (Warwickshire)	5 matches, 5 runs (av 5.00), 5 wkt (av 25.40, econ 3.82).	
• P C R Tufnell (Middlesex)	4 matches, 3 runs (av 1.00), 3 wkt (av 44.33, econ 4.75).	
Extras (b, lb, w, nb)	Total (wkt, overs)	
	INTERMEDIATE SCORES: 10 overs: : 20: : 30: : 40: : 50: : 60: : 70: : 80: : 90: : 100: : 110: : 120: : 130: : 140: : 150: : 160: : 170: : 180: : 190: : 200: : 210: : 220: : 230: : 240: : 250: : 260: : 270: : 280: : 290: : 300: : 310: : 320: : 330: : 340: : 350: : 360: : 370: : 380: : 390: : 400: : 410: : 420: : 430: : 440: : 450: : 460: : 470: : 480: : 490: : 500: : 510: : 520: : 530: : 540: : 550: : 560: : 570: : 580: : 590: : 600: : 610: : 620: : 630: : 640: : 650: : 660: : 670: : 680: : 690: : 700: : 710: : 720: : 730: : 740: : 750: : 760: : 770: : 780: : 790: : 800: : 810: : 820: : 830: : 840: : 850: : 860: : 870: : 880: : 890: : 900: : 910: : 920: : 930: : 940: : 950: : 960: : 970: : 980: : 990: : 1000: : 1010: : 1020: : 1030: : 1040: : 1050: : 1060: : 1070: : 1080: : 1090: : 1100: : 1110: : 1120: : 1130: : 1140: : 1150: : 1160: : 1170: : 1180: : 1190: : 1200: : 1210: : 1220: : 1230: : 1240: : 1250: : 1260: : 1270: : 1280: : 1290: : 1300: : 1310: : 1320: : 1330: : 1340: : 13	



WOMEN
How Hilary Williams took on British Gas — and won



LIFE & TIMES



MEDIA
Can this man save the BBC from ratings failure?

WEDNESDAY MARCH 25 1992

Empires fall but the band plays on

Richard Morrison
recalls 150 years of the Vienna Philharmonic, with its ruthless, masculine and majestic tradition

In one sense Hector Berlioz, the French romantic composer, said it all. "There are orchestras that are as good, but none better. In addition to its vivacity, poise and extreme technical efficiency, it has a most beautiful tone. It is ideal in opera, superb in symphonic music." Berlioz was writing in the mid-1840s about the orchestra of the Vienna Court Opera, which had just diversified into freelance concert work. This Saturday that same orchestra, now better known as the Vienna Philharmonic, celebrates its 150th anniversary. It remains the world's most awesome performing ensemble: self-governing, self-renewing, haughty and magnificent; guarding its traditions as ferociously as any medieval crafts guild; an eternal yardstick by which every other orchestra is judged.

Berlioz, however, could not foresee the paradoxes and dark ironies that lay in the Philharmonic's future. How does an institution remain so dominant, yet so entrenched in changelessness? What price the supposed "civilising power" of great music, when the history of this orchestra includes incessant accusations of misogyny, anti-Semitism and mean-spiritedness? And why does an ensemble producing such sweet concord also have a morbid penchant for strident offstage discord?

The Vienna State Opera (where the Philharmonic still plays for 70 per cent of its time) has been a conductors' graveyard. The orchestra's founder, Otto Nicolai, set the trend 150 years ago: he resigned after internal wrangling and departed for Berlin. Last year Claudio Abbado, the latest Opera director, did exactly the same thing. His reign had begun with ecstatically received performances. Then the inevitable whispering campaign started. "That sort of thing has been going on in Vienna for at least a century," says Franz Welser-Möst, the young Austrian conductor in charge of the London Philharmonic. "Something in our Austrian character causes us to bring down those we first greet as heroes."

Nobody disputes that Mahler, Böhm and Karajan all vacated the Vienna Opera job in strained circumstances. Lorin Maazel's tenure in 1983 had hardly started before it ended in recriminations.

Little seems to have changed since the Archbishop of Salzburg's chamberlain gave counsel to the young Mozart: "A man's reputation in Vienna lasts a very short time. At first you are overwhelmed with praise and make a lot of money... after a few months the Viennese want something new."

Yet even those with reason to hate the Viennese musicians still seem awed by the music-making. Take the composer Bruckner. The Vienna Philharmonic declared his Second Symphony unplayable, and cruelly sabotaged the premiere of his Third. But when he was invited to conduct the orchestra, Bruckner mounted the podium for the rehearsal and stood



motionless for several minutes, a radiant smile on his face. "We are quite ready," Herr Bruckner, do begin," urged the orchestra's leader. "Oh no," said Bruckner. "After you, gentlemen."

The Philharmonic is a classic product of the Biedermeier Period: the era that later generations of Austrians regarded as a lost golden age, when all was concordant, balanced and in its rightful place.

Later, Austria would experience one national trauma after another: the scandal of Mayerling,

the collapse of the Habsburg empire, Nazi rule, two defeats in war, foreign occupation. Through all this, the Philharmonic not only survived but grew in magisterial authority: one last, shining beacon testifying to Vienna's fading glory.

Apart from its matchless, silky sound, what makes the Vienna Philharmonic unique is its refusal to allow conductors to dominate it. This orchestra does not have "principal conductors". A conductor is "invited to make music": the implication is that here is a partnership of equals. Even the most ruthless autocrats can find that daunting. Karajan once explained why he preferred the Berlin to the Vienna Philharmonic. "If I tell the Berliners to step forward, they do it. If I tell the Viennese to step forward, they do it. But then they ask why."

In musical terms, the Philharmonic has always been vulnerable to two charges: that it resists

attempts to change the way it plays the classics, and that it shuns modern music. Mahler sensed that even before he arrived: "Suppose I did come to Vienna," he wrote to a friend. "With my attitude, what would happen to me? The first time I tried to impose my interpretation of a Beethoven symphony upon the celebrated Philharmonic, the most hateful battle would ensue." He was right.

The paradox of Viennese musical life is that this hatred of the new, this constant taking refuge in comfortable nostalgia, has survived alongside Vienna's reputation as cradle or magnet for music's revolutionaries: Beethoven, Mahler, Schoenberg, Berg, Webern. Vienna hated them all, until they were safely dead. Composers were expected to be like good dinner-table conversation: elegant and entertaining, not soul-searching and provocative.

This "closed mind" attitude has given the Vienna Philharmonic a bad press in many quarters. "True, Vienna is a unique music city," wrote the conductor Antal Dorati, "and it is quite in order that the Viennese musicians of today should be proud of this heritage. But pride without humility is conceit, and worthless."

"Vienna still thinks of itself as the centre of a great empire," says Welser-Möst. "But a player recently said to me: we have ridden our

high horse too long; we were due for a fall." Nemesis has indeed come, and at the worst time: as this anniversary year was launched. Carlos Kleiber, that reclusive conducting genius, was booked for the 1992 New Year's Day concert. Word got around that he was paid \$300,000, with television fees on top. That was bad enough: it dented the Philharmonic's reputation as an "equal partner" with its conductors.

Worse was to follow. In return for his vast fee, Kleiber agreed to tour Japan with the orchestra. The Japanese promoters gleefully passed him off as a "magician" or "genius". The ticket prices to around £200 a concert. A predictable disaster struck: Kleiber withdrew. It was a dismal start to the anniversary year.

There is a darker reason why this orchestra is hated by some: the recurring anti-Semitism in its history. That should be put in context. Viennese society was blatantly anti-Semitic from the 1890s onwards: the city that nurtured the young Hitler was also the city that conspired against Mahler. The fact that Mahler had cynically turned Catholic to gain his Vienna appointment made no difference.

The irony is that Vienna was not only a very Jewish city, but also that the Jews played a dominant role in cultural life. So the shock of the Anschluss, and of the subsequent purging of Jews from all of Austria's artistic organisations, was enormous.

Those were the most shameful years in the Philharmonic's history. In 1938 all the orchestra's Jewish members were dismissed. Six were subsequently killed in concentration camps. And yet the band played on.

How strange, then, that in modern times the one conductor apparently idolised in Vienna was Leonard Bernstein, an American Jew. Or perhaps it isn't strange at all. Bernstein, like Mahler, walked into Vienna with his eyes open. He wanted the Vienna Opera to perform his operas. In return the Viennese struck a Faustian bargain: Bernstein should conduct an evening with his conductors.

In New York, Bernstein's Jewish friends were shocked. A fellow composer, Gunther Schuller, wrote: "It is perverse that Lenny should have this love-affair with the most anti-Semitic of cities. The first thing most Viennese musicians do when someone new arrives is find out if he's a Jew."

Bernstein himself wrestled with the morality of his decision in typically flamboyant fashion: he made a film of himself delivering a monologue addressed to Sigmund Freud, in which he asked himself "what's a nice Jewish boy like you doing in a place like this playing racist music?" He probably believed that his triumph in Vienna was, in part, a symptom of guilty Viennese consciences.

That useful American saying — "if it ain't broke, don't fix it" —

could be the motto of the Vienna Philharmonic. Change one detail in the way we run our orchestra, the players argue, and the whole magical formula will be lost. That is why, if you ask a Vienna Philharmonic player the reason for his orchestra being so reluctant to admit women players, he will ask you (with icy Austrian courtesy) to point out the precise deficiencies that would be improved by so radical a departure from tradition.

When Mahler finally gave up his struggle with his Viennese musicians, he wrote them a letter of touching sadness: "Instead of the complete, rounded whole, such as I had hoped for, I leave behind the incomplete, the fragmentary,

as a man seems fated to do." From his point of view, he did. But the Vienna Philharmonic would say that he left them exactly as he found them: a great orchestra whose perceived destiny is to stay exactly the same, forever.

ARTS	2.3
Women	4.5
Media	6.7
Property	10.11
Law Report	12
European arts	14

TOMORROW Anthony Holden on the Oscars

JEFFREY TATE CONDUCTS
OFFENBACH'S
LES CONTES D'HOFFMANN
Revival sponsored by British Steel S

NEIL SHICOFF
SAMUEL RAMEY
JEAN RIGBY
SUMI JO/
ELIZABETH VIDAL
(7-11 APRIL)

ANNE HOWELLS
LEONTINA VADUVA/
AMANDA THANE
(7-11 APRIL)

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM £22
APRIL 1, 4, 5, 11
AT 7.00PM

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE

If only midnight pixies emptied the bin

SINGLE LIFE

Lynne Truss ponders a long list of chores and only herself to do them



for a couple of hours, and when I came back I realised I could retrace virtually every moment of his stay, just by observing all the things he had moved from their usual places. The low seat was up. A plate with toast crumbs awaited me on the draining-board, along with a knife tinged with Marmite. A couple of inches of wine had gone from an opened bottle, and a glass with dregs in it was rolling on

the living-room floor. A book had been replaced in the wrong position on a shelf, a window opened (and not closed again), the backdoor key hidden so successfully it took me two hours to find it. I moved stealthily around the flat, feeling a bit like Sherlock Holmes on the trail of exotic cigar-ash.

"He's been here, too!" I whispered excitedly. "See, he has moved these cassettes!" Thank goodness I didn't have a magnifying-glass, or I would have been down on the carpet, observing the pile for footprints.

I felt proud and irritated in equal measure: proud that I can now (like Holmes himself) detect the tiniest variation in the depth of dust on a pile of *Radio Times*; irritated for obvious reasons (mainly to do with washing up). But there was something rather macabre about this Do Your Own Forensics activity, and eventually I stopped thinking about it. The idea of living alone is somehow quite closely associated with the idea of dying alone, too, and I didn't want to think about the giveaway clues packed into my own day-to-day life. "We found a half-eaten jar of pickled onions next to the bath. She had fed the cats but not washed the spoon. A little Post-it note was attached to

TOMORROW Private Life: John Diamond

One of the more difficult things to accept about being newly single is that there is no one to strike chore-bargains with. You know the sort of thing: "If you do the breakfast, I'll take the bin out"; "I'll get the milk, you get the papers." Make such fair-s-fair suggestions to a cat, I find, and it will just look preoccupied, and suddenly remember an urgent appointment outside.

The beauty of efficient teamwork is that it cuts through the grease and grime of household activity with a brisk one-two, reminiscent of the old telly adverts for Flash. Wissah, woossssh, all done. "You make a cup of tea, while I lie full-out on this sofa, preventing it from buckling up and killing somebody."

Jobs that can't be tackled simultaneously stretch out instead in long miserable single file, like prisoners on a chain-gang, and are dealt with on the weary principle of one-damn-thing-after-another. The plodding linear quality is depressing. Sometimes you forget, of course, and glance optimistically at the bin, fleetingly wondering whether someone else has taken out the rubbish. But they usually have not. The cheerful midnight pixie with bucket and

LEIPZIG GEMANDHAUS ORCHESTRA: One of the oldest orchestras in the world – its origins can be traced back to concerts given in 1781 – the orchestra visits the Barbican for a one-off performance, Kurt Masur conducting an all-Strauss programme. Riccardo Muti, which includes the mischievous symphonic poem *Till Eulenspiegel*, and, from the end of the composer's long life, the lush *Metamorphosen* for strings, and, with the Vassily Varady, the surreal *Four Last Songs*. Mon-Sat, 7pm. Barbican Centre, 5th Street, London EC2 (071-338 6691). 7.45pm.

BBC WELSH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA: The BBC Welsh SO under its dynamic leader Tatjana Okša gives the world premiere of William Mathews' *In Arcadia*. The programme includes music by Mendelssohn and Tchaikovsky. University College Hall, Aberystwyth (0670 622222). 8pm.

ANDY SHEPPARD AND STEVE LODDER: Londoners are spoilt for choice this week with the Camden Jazz Festival celebrating the talents of jazz legends like Miles Davis and the brilliant pianist Keith Tippett. Tonight brings the first live outing for the creative duo of saxophonist Sheppard and keyboard player Loder. Bloomsbury Theatre, Gordon Street, London W1 (071-387 9229). 1.15pm.

HIGH HEELS (16): Spanish director Pedro Almodóvar's most recent film, *Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown*, has a party atmosphere in all of Chased, the national fund for Aids.

□ ANNA KARINA: Film and television in *Starlight Express*'s recording version of Tolstoy's novel. Tricycle, Kilburn High Road, NW1 (071-328 1155). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. 4pm.

THE COTTON CLUB: An impression of the Harlem nightspot, set on an ornate stage production. Adelphi, The Aldwych, WC2 (071-535 6401). Mon-Fri, 7.30pm, Sat, 8pm, mat. 2.30pm, Sat, 4pm, 10.30pm.

DANCING AT LUGHNASA: Brian Friel's Oliver Award-winning memory play, set in Thirties Donegal. Garrick, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-580 5451). Mon-Fri, 7.30pm, mat. Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 4pm, 10.30pm.

■ DEATH AND THE MAIDEN: Julian Sands' Alice in wonderland superb in And Dostoevsky's classic political drama. Best play of 1991. Duke of York's, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-583 5122). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 4pm, 10.30pm.

■ DOWN AND OUT IN PARIS: Louis de Bernières' *Far From the Madding Crowd* with a feast of clever staging and sharp vignettes of acting. Riverside Studios, Crisp Road, W6 (081-749 3554). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, 10.30pm.

■ AN EVENING WITH GARY LINEKER: Sometimes drill look at the life of a woman married to a soccer nut. Duchess, Catherine Street, WC2 (071-494 5001). Mon-Thurs, 8pm, Fri, Sat, 8pm and 8.45pm, 10.30pm.

■ GOOD ROCKIN' TONITE: Satisfying musical celebrating Fifties R&B stars. Old Vic, Newmarket Avenue (071-938 4401). Mon-Thurs, 8pm, Fri, Sat, 8.30pm and 9.30pm, 10.30pm.

■ A HARD HEART: Architect Anne Massey destroys what she claims to love in Barker's complex, grid play. Almeida, Almeida Street, N1 (071-359 4404). Mon-Fri, 8pm, mat. Sat, 4pm, 8.30pm.

■ HEARTBREAK IN WOMEN: Paul Scofield and Vanessa Redgrave head Trevor Nunn's splendid cast in Shaw's timeless classic of England drama. Trafalgar Studios, Drury Lane, SW1 (071-920 8800). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat. Wed, 2.30pm, 2.25pm.

■ MAKING IT BETTER: James Saunders' subtle play concerned with ideals, reality and liberation in Prague and London; Jane Asher in an exemplary cast of four.

NEW RELEASES

APOCALYPSE NOW (18): Coppola's gory Vietnam odyssey, revisited in 70mm. Martin Sheen as the special agent with orders to kill Merle. MGM Stanley Kubrick Avenue (071-836 8279/379 0202).

LA BALLE NOIRE (16): Jacques Prevert's mythic exploration of a painter and his model, struggling to complete an abandoned canvas. Close to a masterpiece. With Michel Piccoli, Chantal Akerman and Jeanne Moreau (071-351 4742/57 1929). Metro (071-437 0757) Renov (071-837 8422).

BUGSY (18): Warren Beatty as Bugsy Siegel, the gangster who invented Las Vegas. Sleek, witty, dazzling to behold. Barry Levinson. Cinema Leicester Square (0422 615693).

J'EMBRASSE PAS (16): Yesterday's Candide has a new home. Pungent, breezy, but undressing. With Manuel Blanca, Emmanuelle Seigner. Philippe Noiret, director. Andra. Miramax (071-538 1527) MGM (071-359 0031) Odeon Kensington (0423 914685).

• FOR DINNER (PG): Two ordinary Jews escape from a 20-year deep freeze. Unsettling comic whine from director W.D. Richter. With Brian Benben, Peter Berg, Michael Richards. Rankin (071-587 2059) MGM Haymarket (071-538 1527) MGM Trocadero (071-358 0031) Odeon Kensington (0423 914685).

• SHINING THROUGH (15): Opulent, preposterous wartime drama, with Melaine Griffith spying for the U.S. Government in Berlin. Stars Michael Douglas; director, David Seltzer.

TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kari Knight

Lumière, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (071-379 3014), doors open 8.20pm, starts 8.45pm.

SCOTTISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA: The husband and wife team of conductor Paul Daniel and soprano Sophie Stevenson. This programme with the Scottish Chamber Orchestra and Chorus, performing Milhaud's jazz-inspired work, *The Creation of the World*, Britten's song cycle *Les Illuminations* and Faure's *Requiem*. Also with the accomplished bass-baritone Stephen Johnson. Royal Opera House, Hall, Barbican Street, Glasgow (0141 227 5511). 7.30pm.

THE PELICAN: *The Citizens'* new spring season brings together three sharply contrasted views of love: *The Pelican*, Strindberg's most vivid portrait of a mother (Third Theatre, opens tonight); *Die Edwige's Play*, the last great work of the end of his legendary powers (Second Theatre, opens tomorrow); and Wedekind's *Lulu* (First Theatre, opens Friday). Citizens Theatre, Gorbals, Glasgow (0141 229 0022). 7.30pm.

TURNER: THE FIFTH DECADE: The Costa Green survey of Turner's career in complete exhibitionism or art-crossing the ground, working sometimes by theme, sometimes by period. The period covered by this

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeromy Kingston's assessment of current London theatre

■ House full, returns only

■ Some seats available

■ Seats at all prices

Hampstead, Swiss Cottage Centre, NW3 (071-722 9201). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. 8.15pm, 10.30pm, final week.

■ MEASURE FOR MEASURE:

Terence Rattigan's engrossing production: David Head plays the Duke; Sophie Thompson Viola.

Young Vic, The Cut, SE1 (071-620 0411/623 6363). Mon-Sat, 7.15pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, 8pm, 10.30pm.

■ MOBY DICK:

A girl's school puts on a fund-raising show. Tony Monopoly plays a headmistress playing Captain Ahab. Bressed musical.

Pleasance, Denmark Street, W1 (071-887 1157). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. 8.15pm, 10.30pm.

■ THE NIGHT OF THE IGUANA:

Alfred Molina as a superb Elsie.

Alain in Tennessee Williams's play the effects of sexual repression.

National, Lyttelton, South Bank, SE1 (071-925 2222). Tues, 7.15pm, mat. 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, 8pm, 10.30pm.

■ A TRIBUTE TO THE BLUES BROTHERS:

Living legends of tuneful blues. Good fun.

Whitechapel, Whitechapel, W1 (071-877 1159). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. 8.15pm, 10.30pm.

■ THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA:

Glorious voices of the old titans: tunes by Offenbach, Verdi and Weber – but not Lloyd Webber.

Shakespeare, Shakespear Avenue, WC2 (071-582 8559). Mon-Fri, 7.30pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, 8pm, 10.30pm.

■ THE POCKET DREAM:

Foolish romances with a dash of wit.

Albery, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-887 1155). Tues, 7.15pm, mat. 8pm, 10.30pm.

■ THE RECRUITING OFFICER:

Nicholas Hytner's good-natured production, rather too good to be true to the play's darker comedy.

Adrian, Old Vic, Waterloo, SE1 (071-925 2222). Tues, 7.15pm, mat. 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, 8pm, 10.30pm.

■ THE SPIDER:

George Devine's *Spider* is a

surprise hit.

Lyceum, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (071-580 5555). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, 8pm, 10.30pm.

■ THE TALKING HEADS:

Depeche Mode's *Violent Blue*.

Whitechapel, Whitechapel, W1 (071-877 1159). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. 8.15pm, 10.30pm.

■ THE WOMAN IN BLACK:

Deborah Findlay's *Woman in Black*.

Lyceum, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (071-580 5555). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, 8pm, 10.30pm.

■ THE WOMAN ON THE TRAIN:

Julia Kristeva's *Woman on the Train*.

Lyceum, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (071-580 5555). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, 8pm, 10.30pm.

■ THE WOMAN'S WORK:

Deborah Findlay's *Woman's Work*.

Lyceum, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (071-580 5555). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, 8pm, 10.30pm.

■ THE WOMEN IN BLACK:

Deborah Findlay's *Woman in Black*.

Lyceum, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (071-580 5555). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, 8pm, 10.30pm.

■ THE WOMEN ON THE TRAIN:

Julia Kristeva's *Woman on the Train*.

Lyceum, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (071-580 5555). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, 8pm, 10.30pm.

■ THE WOMAN'S WORK:

Deborah Findlay's *Woman's Work*.

Lyceum, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (071-580 5555). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, 8pm, 10.30pm.

■ THE WOMAN'S WORK:

Deborah Findlay's *Woman's Work*.

Lyceum, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (071-580 5555). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, 8pm, 10.30pm.

■ THE WOMAN'S WORK:

Deborah Findlay's *Woman's Work*.

Lyceum, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (071-580 5555). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, 8pm, 10.30pm.

■ THE WOMAN'S WORK:

Deborah Findlay's *Woman's Work*.

Lyceum, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (071-580 5555). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, 8pm, 10.30pm.

■ THE WOMAN'S WORK:

Deborah Findlay's *Woman's Work*.

Lyceum, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (071-580 5555). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, 8pm, 10.30pm.

■ THE WOMAN'S WORK:

Deborah Findlay's *Woman's Work*.

Lyceum, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (071-580 5555). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, 8pm, 10.30pm.

■ THE WOMAN'S WORK:

Deborah Findlay's *Woman's Work*.

Lyceum, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (071-580 5555). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, 8pm, 10.30pm.

■ THE WOMAN'S WORK:

Deborah Findlay's *Woman's Work*.

Lyceum, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (071-580 5555). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, 8pm, 10.30pm.

■ THE WOMAN'S WORK:

Deborah Findlay's *Woman's Work*.

Lyceum, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (071-580 5555). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, 8pm, 10.30pm.

■ THE WOMAN'S WORK:

Deborah Findlay's *Woman's Work*.

Lyceum, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (071-580 5555). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, 8pm, 10.30pm.

■ THE WOMAN'S WORK:

Deborah Findlay's *Woman's Work*.

Lyceum, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (071-580 5555). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, 8pm, 10.30pm.

THEATRE

The crucial importers of being earnest

Kenneth Rea
 looks at the energising influence of foreign directors on sound but sometimes sober-sided British actors and actresses

The end of this year is supposed to bring us closer to a more culturally integrated Europe. We may not have felt the earth move yet, but in the theatre we are about to see a mini-invasion of foreign directors. Not just foreign companies visiting, but directors working here with British actors.

The question is, how much do we need them? Do they have a magic quality that British directors lack? Most leading actors who have been through the foreign experience are emphatic that they do. When Glenda Jackson played the autocratic Spanish mother in Nuria Espert's West End production of *The House of Bernarda Alba*, she constantly had to tell herself: "They don't live in Surrey, they don't live in Spain." Espert kept reminding her: "We are savages. We don't have your politeness." The result was a portrayal of explosive intensity that Glenda Jackson cherishes as one of her best.

A year ago the Georgian director Robert Sturua guided the Redgraves through an uncommonly passionate *Three Sisters*. "Physically and emotionally I would say it was about the toughest production any of us had done," recalls Lynn Redgrave. "We all agreed on that. It was very different but one had to abandon oneself to his way of doing things. That was very good for us all, I think, because a few of us had been used to having our own way for a long time."

More recently, Prunella Scales took part in a workshop at the National Theatre Studio run by the influential Russian director, Anatoli Vasiliev. She went along expecting "a tyrannical guru" but was surprised to find him courteous, patient and positive. "I don't know how much I can use, but it certainly shook me up as an actor in a very positive way," she says. "It's something to do with the energy he generates, but also the Russian way of working. He didn't lavish praise on anybody, but he was never destructive. We adored him."

Opportunities to accept the foreign challenge continue to flow in. The Brazilian director,

Augusto Boal, is at present running a series of workshops for London Bubble, while the Russian director, Vasilij Sotnikov is taking drama students of Guildhall School through Dostoevsky's *The Possessed*. This week Lev Dodin, director of the May Drama Theatre of St Petersburg (formerly the May Theatre of Leningrad), and 23 of his company begin working with British actors in Melrose, Scotland.

Dodin's visit rounds off a major season of workshops by directors from the former Soviet Union organised by the International Workshop Festival. The IWF, which previously introduced Jacques Lecoq, Carlo Bosi and Philippe Gaulier to the British theatre profession, has a further line-up of international directors and teachers in the autumn.

This summer, Thelma Holt will mount a new Robert Sturua production with a British cast, Robert Lepage will unveil his version of *Midsummer Night's Dream* at the National Theatre and Philippe Gaulier will be touring his newly formed British company. Following them next spring, Yukio Ninagawa directs Alan Rickman in *Peyton Place*, also produced by Thelma Holt.

It all sounds very interna-

tional, but how much difference is this going to make to British theatre? Thelma Holt, who has a long experience of enticing top foreign directors to work here, thinks the vital element is risk. "The thing about many foreign directors is that they do inspire in actors the willingness to stretch themselves just a little bit further than they sometimes do when they're with a director who speaks their own language," she says. "And the result is that you take risks. Foreign directors deserve the right to fail, which we tend not to do because of our economic situation."

Inevitably the stimulus of working with top foreign directors, who demand the time to go into minute detail on a scene, highlights the fact that so much British work could be better if it were not so compromised. As Prunella Scales points out, "What we have to do in England is instant acting and we're very good at it. But there's a world elsewhere that can show us different ways. British directors don't get the chance to work as they would like to, because there's never enough time."

Good foreign directors are admired for the visual boldness of their productions and the technical virtuosity of their actors, but when they work here, what most strikes audiences and critics is the emotional intensity they manage to extract from British actors. How do they do it? Suzanne Bertish, who starred with Alan Rickman in *Ninagawa's* production of *Tango at the End of Winter*, says, "I instinctively trusted Ninagawa. Yet, I've never been given more responsibility by a director, ever in my life. What inspired me personally about him was this great director's humility. He wasn't talking from a puffed-up ego. He achieved in five weeks' rehearsal what is not often achieved after working a year in a company."

What most impressed Glenda Jackson about Nuria Espert was that she listened and offered suggestions rather than coming in with battle plans of how people moved and on what line. By contrast, Yuri Lyubimov did approach his restaging of *Hamlet* for Leicester Haymarket (which



he had directed in Russia more than a decade before) with a preordained plan and for many of his cast the rehearsal process was indeed a battle. As Daniel Webb, who played Hamlet, recalls, "He had a particular approach to acting where an action would lead to a thought which would lead to an emotion, rather than the other way round. I found it refreshing but half the actors found it extremely threatening. They couldn't bear him saying 'Move there, do that.'"

What Lyubimov had in common with his foreign colleagues was an eagerness to dispense with the preliminary



intellectual discussions so beloved of many English directors. "The thing about foreign directors is that they force you to do things you're not used to doing," says Webb. "On the very first day it was straight in. He said, 'You've all read it? Okay, we don't need a read-through.' And he wanted 150 per cent from the very beginning. It made you dive off the top board. As an actor, I felt naked and scared. Lyubimov said to me, 'If you're feeling safe, then you're doing it wrong.' I thought that was quite a good note."

But for all his risks, Webb earned damning reviews because the verse-speaking

was so atrocious. In rehearsal, Lyubimov had given more time to the technical complexities of his set than the needs of the actors. A confrontation developed and members of the cast were left to speak the lines as best they could.

Of course, not every foreign director is a theatrical Messiah, but if we are open enough to take on new methods we have nothing to lose but our insularity. That is partly why the International Workshop Festival is increasingly targeting British directors. Ultimately it is they who will bring about change.

• For details of places in the International Workshop Festival, telephone 071-253 3099.

GALLERIES: NAPLES

Distinguished, gloomy gathering

Ribera, a Spaniard who made his name in Italy, is the subject of an exhibition in his adopted home. John Russell Taylor reports



At least he spared viewers the flaying: *Apollo and Marsyas* by Jusepe de Ribera

and the equestrian portrait of *Juan of Austria*, suggests that the influence may have been reciprocal.

And yet the proliferation of flayings and other nastinesses applied to the saints (the martyrs of St Bartholomew and St Sebastian were particular favourites) seem completely at home in Neapolitan art of the period, but Ribera's brand fits in with Naples and seems slightly off-centre in Spain. The most one can say is that some of his richest later works, like the Metropolitan's *Mystical Marriage of St Catherine* (1648) or the *Santa Maria Egiziaca* in Naples (pensive rather than hefty aerobatic) are poised between the two schools: What would have happened if he had returned to Spain? In Naples that remains a puzzle. Maybe the Madrid version of the show will suggest some unsuspected answers.

As Ribera progresses into the 17th century his compositions become more intricate and unruly, his colours lighter and brighter. But still his characteristic tone is grim: the only picture with charm in the

colour. Eventually they seep into his work, but only after traversing a seemingly endless series of half- and three-quarter length portraits with plain brown backgrounds, usually identified as this saint or that only by a significantly placed attribute.

As Ribera progresses into the 17th century his compositions become more intricate and unruly, his colours lighter and brighter. But still his characteristic tone is grim: the only picture with charm in the

TELEVISION

Tracks of the master

exposed and probed by the surgeon's knife. Talking about the importance attached to human hands in 17th-century Holland, Schama could hardly have been more frantically flamboyant.

Schama's ability to dive into a painting, and resurface with an observation about the fur standing up in terror on Belshazzar's cloak, made me look forward to his second programme (on BBC 2 next Sunday) about the later, private Rembrandt. But at one point, the camera alighted on a portrait of Jan Pellicorno without any acknowledgement of the painting's uncertain status. For this is one of the 11 demoted Rembrandts in the Wallace Collection, where only one of his pictures is now regarded as authentic. The rest have been rejected by the Rembrandt Research Project, a formidable

team of Dutch scholars whose deliberations lie at the centre of *The Vanishing Rembrandts* (tonight, BBC 2).

Geoff Dunlop's measured film begins in an ominous mood, stressing the fear generated by the Project as it strips Rembrandt's oeuvre of its dubious images. Some of his most celebrated and expensive paintings have been attributed to pupils such as Flinck, Bol and the elusive Drost, who is even supposed to have painted the seductive *Polish Rider* in the Frick collection. The director of the Frick fails to defend his painting, but other owners rally round their pictures with conviction.

The undismayed Duke of Westminster, four of whose Rembrandts have been ousted from the canon, coolly insists that "It's not something which concerns me hugely — the quality of the work hasn't changed." But our attitude to the disputed pictures is bound to alter. Unlike Christopher Brown of the National Gallery, who likens one Westminster portrait to the infinitely superior Agatha Bas, I find myself sharing the Project's doubts.

RICHARD CORK

DONATELLA FLICK CONDUCTING COMPETITION

Patron: HRH The Prince of Wales

Finalists

Andrew Dunscombe
Graham Jackson

Ian Hughes
Timothy Lole

conduct the YOUNG MUSICIANS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

in works by Sibelius, Rimsky-Korsakov, Tchaikovsky, Elgar

with JILL GOMEZ

singing Concert Arias by Mozart

REHEARSALS 2pm

PERFORMANCES 7.45pm

WEDS & THURS 8 & 9 APRIL

QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL

TICKETS £4-£9.50 Concessions £1 and 2-day passes

Box Office (0171) 522 8800

In association with the Accademia Italiana and The Royal Philharmonic Society

ARTS BRIEF

Dream in sight

ALBERTO GRIMALDI, the veteran film producer of *Last Tango in Paris* and Fellini's *Satyricon*, is inching nearer to his dream project. It is to make a film version of Dashiell Hammett's novel *Red Harvest*, a corpse-ridden tale of corruption and union-busting in Montana. Grimaldi bought the rights in 1972; Bernardo Bertolucci was once earmarked as the director, but fell out over interpretation (he is reported to have envisaged the film as "an American Marxist opera"). The more conservative Volker Schlöndorff has now been signed, and Harrison Ford is being sought to star as Hammett's nameless detective.

Unto the breach

SIR William Walton would have been 90 this coming Sunday, and the London Symphony Orchestra is marking the date with a performance at the Barbican of Walton's score for the 1944 Olivier film of *Henry V*. On this occasion, Tom Conti will be crying God for Harry, England and St George. The Barbican Centre is also currently showing 30 photographs by Cecil Beaton of the young Walton and his circle of acquaintances. The exhibition is on until the end of next week.

Peak time

IF THE quality of the jury is anything to go by, the world's newest arts awards — the "Montblanc de la Culture" — should make a splash. Dame Joan Sutherland, Catherine Denève, Isaac Stern, the dancer Karen Kain, the Louvre Pyramid architect I.M. Pei and the conductor Seiji Ozawa are among the judges for the awards, which are sponsored by a pen company. Each year four leading patrons of the arts will be selected; they will receive \$25,000 each to spend on the arts organisation of their choice. The awards are announced in New York next month.

Last chance . . .

WET, WET, WET — the Glasgow rock band with the silly, silly, silly name — have made strenuous efforts to shake off their "teen heroes" image and reposition themselves in adult consciousness. But, thanks in large measure to the recent chart success of their romantic ballad "Goodnight Girl", it just won't work. Young girls insist on turning every venue at which they appear into a raucous cauldron of pubescent rapture. The final concert in their current tour is tonight at the NEC, Birmingham (021-780 4133).

Taking heat from the gasmen

Heather Kirby
tells how Hilary Williams fought against dismissal and won a case to get back her job as a senior executive

Hilary Williams embodies what the modern female high-flier is all about, which may explain why British Gasman is so flummoxed by her. Single, 48, and committed to her career, Ms Williams is too independent and intelligent to be pushed around, but she is also sensitive and can be seriously wounded by unfair treatment.

This combination seems to present supposedly modern organisations, with stone-age managers lurking in their corridors of power, with a dilemma. How does corporate caveman cope with an attractive senior executive, tipped to become the company's first female director, someone who can neither be patronised as one of the boys nor seduced with a sharp tap on the head with a club?

There are other ways, as Ms Williams discovered when she was summarily sacked from her £45,000-a-year job as southwest regional marketing manager for British Gas. When it happened, Tony Roddis, her boss, said: "Thank God you have taken it like a man, even though you are the wrong shape." His remark will be treasured in the annals of equal opportunities lore. But instead of putting up with her demotion as, apparently, she was expected to do, Ms Williams fought back.

"It was a matter of personal pride," she says. "I felt destroyed. Having concentrated exclusively on a career for 25 years, I had put all my eggs in one basket and there went the basket, crashing down. Individuals and organisations should behave in a moral way and the treatment I received no way fell into that category."

"It was grossly unfair, and an unwarranted slur was being cast on my career. It was fed back to me that 'she must have blotted her copybook' but there was no skeleton in the cupboard which should make me feel inadequate in any way."

After a five-day hearing an industrial tribunal delivered its verdict in her favour last week. British Gas was found guilty of "institutionalised discrimination" and the tribunal's chairman, Stella Hollis, added, "The tribunal are satisfied that the men were treated more favourably. They awarded Ms Williams £8,000 damages and ordered British Gas to reinstate her in her old job and pay her costs.

The tribunal also recommended that a letter, written by the domestic marketing director, Barry Adams, after grievance procedures began, should be destroyed. "It appeared to the tribunal to be a very unkind and generalised attack on a person who has been a colleague and a friend in order to preserve other colleagues," the ruling said.

The humiliation of being demoted to a job Ms Williams had been doing eight years ago, "which is very much smaller than I am" was particularly demoralising for a woman who had previously been hailed by the company, which employs more than 70,000, as one



Vindicated: an industrial tribunal found British Gas guilty of "institutionalised discrimination" against Hilary Williams. She was awarded £8,000 damages

When she was sacked from a £45,000-a-year job with British Gas, her boss said: "Thank God you are taking it like a man, even though you are the wrong shape."

had to do it otherwise I would not have had any proof. They could have said I didn't bother to apply.

"I felt the reason I was being chucked out was my boss was not able to cope with a strong, decisive, achieving woman. To him I was a totally alien thing. He is typical of his background and upbringing and I used to tease him that he was a northern male chauvinist. He is only nine days older than I am but he wasn't comfortable about working with a woman at this level. The other three managers reporting to him were men and I felt a little bit left out on the outside. Their families socialised together after work, I didn't get invited."

"When he suggested I go for a district general manager's job in Bath I told him there would be no point because the operations director in charge of Somerset doesn't like women. His response was, 'he's only frightened of you like I am'."

A remark such as that may not be unusual in a company where an interview panel can, according to

Ms Williams, come up with questions such as, "An attractive woman like you, won't you be getting married soon?" or, "Will you be able to handle this position, it involves accounts and women aren't good at numbers, are they?" As it happens Ms Williams took A-levels in pure and applied maths and physics at Bath High School, and originally read maths at university but graduated with a psychology degree. She is also a Master of Business Administration: was the first female assistant prison governor in the country, worked for Wiltshire's social services department and is a non-executive director of an NHS trust hospital.

Sitting in her mews house on the outskirts of Bath, Ms Williams is surrounded by good luck cards and is ministering to a fluffy white stray cat with bat-eared ears that has adopted her. British Gas has, she says, made a "flurry of senior female appointments within the

last few weeks and I am absolutely delighted for the women concerned. Nonetheless, it does look a little bit like a knee-jerk reaction." One of the appointments is Julie Mellor to the newly created position of equal opportunities director, a job which, despite the impending hearing, Ms Williams had also applied for.

"I made it quite clear it was a considered and serious application because it was not beyond the bounds of possibility it might be interpreted as frivolous. I also made it quite clear British Gas could not bribe me by offering me the job in return for dropping the case and I was not offering to drop the case in return for the job. That made it clean and decent and honest. We would have had to resolve our dispute outside the legal process."

In the event, although she was shortlisted, she did not succeed, and nor, she feels, for any other reason than she failed to expand on

AND BRIEFLY For lusty offspring

"THE imagination of the mother operates most forcibly in the conception of the child. How much better, then, were it for women to lead contented lives, that so their imaginations may be pure and clear, that so that their conception may be well formed." A mother "ought to avoid all salt meats, garlic, leeks, onions and mustard. Excessive drinking of wine, strong beer or ale; for they trouble the child's body with cholera. Cheese, both old and new, with melancholy; and all fish with flegm." And those who wish to become mothers should "Use not the act of copulation too often... Satiety glistens the womb, and makes it unfit to do its offices..." This and other occasionally pertinent advice for mothers-to-be is proffered in *Culpeper's Book of Birth: a Seventeenth Century Guide to Having Lusty Children* (Webb & Bower, £9.95), which is available from Culpeper shops around the country. It is edited by Ian Mitchell Thomas and all royalties go to Birthright.

Cellar sell-off

TOMORROW the fine wines and champagnes from the private cellars of Robert Maxwell will be auctioned at Christie's. The bottles — more than 3,000 — are expected to realise between £60,000 and £80,000 for Headington Holdings Ltd, with a dozen Chateau La Mission-Haut-Brion 1961 alone expected to bring in up to £3,000. A selection of the wines will be available for tasting on the day. Further details from Christie's, 8 King Street, London SW1Y 6QT (071-839 9060).

Roll up . . .

IF YOU can't be bothered to completely re-decorate a child's room, you can give it a new look with the new Funtime borders from Fablon. From £3.99 a roll (depending on length and width) they feature animals and cartoon characters, and a wipe-clean finish.

Singing detector

"INTELLIGENT" packaging — that can speak, sing or otherwise communicate its product's authenticity — would be welcomed by toy manufacturers concerned by counterfeits, according to the British Toy & Hobby Briefing. A recent report by the trade and industry department and the Centre for Exploitation of Science and Technology found that the use of low-cost sensors in packaging could save the beleaguered industry up to £60 billion over the next ten years. Consumers would undoubtedly pay more but would gain in the long run from knowing they were buying the real thing. Then there is the danger that the packaging would become a greater collector's item than the product.

Horse sense

FIRST-TIME buyers may find that choosing a horse is as difficult as choosing a house. So Pet Plan, the pet and equestrian insurers, have set up an advice line (Freephone 0800 212 248) offering guidance on costs (of buying and keeping), stabling and how to avoid being saddled with a "lemon". (Buy from someone in your area or who is well-known, and see the horse ridden by his present owner before trying him out yourself. And always have an expert on hand for advice, such as your local equine veterinary surgeon.) Even if you don't buy a horse — or insure it with Pet Plan — the advice is free.

V.MCK.

Blame it
in biology

Bitter feelings can lie beneath the sugary surface of mother-daughter relationships

Mother's day may be a time for flowers and flattery, but for the rest of the year relationships between women and their mothers can be fraught with terribly unladylike feelings.

Some women, among them quite a few high achievers, go so far as to deny their mothers and identify with their fathers. The starting point for Leo Abse's controversial "psycho-biography" of Mrs Thatcher was her entry in *Who's Who*, proclaiming that she was "born 13 October 1925, daughter of the late Alfred Roberts" — without any mention of her mother Beatrice, to whom the former prime minister is alleged to have commented she had nothing more to say after the age of 15.

Other women who achieved success in traditionally male fields — from Queen Elizabeth I to the scientist Dr Mary Archer, the philosopher Lady Warnock and the mathematical prodigy Ruth Lawrence — all did so by identifying more strongly with a male parent. As Dr Archer put it, "I think rejection is too strong a word. But like many women who've been fortunate I have had a very supportive father."

Psychiatrists' couches are filled with women who believe their mothers to be at the root of all their evils. May Taylor, an analytical psychotherapist who works almost exclusively with women in Manchester and Birmingham, says, "The mother-daughter relationship is the central one in women's lives and underlies the majority of other relationships. Often you see a deep-seated rivalry which is tragic. Many women who are mothers of teenage girls today seem to envy their freedom — and the relationship the girl has got

When mother's had her day

with her father — and there is quite a lot of envy."

Some degree of disagreement with her mother is essential for a woman's independent development, Ms Taylor says. "In order to separate from the mother she needs a point where she's not getting on because she's going to have to reject some of her mother's values in order to get on with her own. It's a natural stage, although it feels horrible and both mother and daughter hate it. But unless there is that separation you're going to get an unhealthy fusion. I've given her my own daughter permission to shoot me if I exhibit certain characteristics of my own mother!"

The period of separation usually comes at the daughter's puberty. "If the mother handles it well the tensions should start easing by the time the daughter is about 16," Ms Taylor says. Handling it well means not laying down too many rules and instructions about things that do not matter (such as clothes) but laying down rules where they are important.

Dr Nini Herman, a psychotherapist and the author of *Too Long a Child: The Mother/Daughter Dyad*, is less certain than Ms Taylor that a period of conflict is necessary between a daughter and her mother. "Where from the very beginning a mother takes it as a matter of course that a daughter can make her own choices there's no great need for fighting," she says. "There is no need to reject

your mother to become yourself, and as things move on and it is taken for granted that mothers and daughters must both find their own fulfilment it should become increasingly easier — with less guilt on the part of the daughter and less rage on the part of the mother."

Dysfunctional mother/daughter relationships begin, Dr Herman is convinced, at birth. Child therapists at the Tavistock Clinic in London, a leading family therapy centre, now do "baby observation" as part of their training — visiting a mother and baby weekly for two years, she says. "It is wonderful to watch a relationship laying down its seed."

But instant bonding with a female baby is not essential. "If the mother handles it well the tensions should start easing by the time the daughter is about 16," Ms Taylor says. Handling it well means not laying down too many rules and instructions about things that do not matter (such as clothes) but laying down rules where they are important.

The psychiatrist Dr Robin Skinner is hesitant about apportioning blame on either side for mother/daughter difficulties. "It's more that if a mother has grown up with good mothering herself and has grown up to feel good about herself then things are more likely to go well with her daughter," he says. "We often perpetuate the cycle by trying too hard not to perpetuate it if you have a mother who is too intensely invested in the child so the child feels smothered, and when she grows up she may repeat that pattern or react the other way — pushing her daughter away, almost. That daughter grows up feeling deprived, and when she has a child she may zoom in and feel she's going to give it what she lacks and the process starts over again."



Relatively valued: Meryl Streep and screen mother Shirley MacLaine in *Postcards from the Edge*

Victoria Secunda, the American author of *When You and Your Mother Can't Be Friends* believes that no two generations in history have had less in common than the current one of women and their mothers of 50-plus. "The mothers were raised to define themselves in terms of their maternal priorities

while their daughters were raised on sex and drugs and rock and roll," Ms Secunda says. "So the mother either denigrates the daughter or is dominated by her." Ms Secunda, at 52, has not yet resolved her relationship with her own mother. "My mother and I had a very problematic relation-

VICTORIA MCKEE

Any sex so long as it's female

In Maidstone all four main parliamentary candidates are women; does sex make a difference? Alice Thomson reports on the flavour of an all-female campaign



Female rivals: Anne Logan (Labour), Paula Yates (Lib Dem) and Ann Widdecombe (Conservative)

While women elsewhere in Britain are still struggling to clamber to the top of the career pyramid, in Maidstone they are already nearing the summit. Women, it seems, are a highly-valued commodity in this Kentish heartland. The mayor is a woman, the deputy mayor is a woman, most of the senior borough councillors are women and now, in a parliamentary first, all three main parties as well as the Greens have women candidates.

The seat has been held by the formidable Ann Widdecombe, under-secretary of state at the social security department, who has developed a reputation as a doughty fighter during her four years at Westminster. Miss Widdecombe, one of the first women to be promoted by John Major, had a healthy majority of 10,000 at the last election. Her rivals are no less daunting: Liberal Democrat Paula Yates; a former leader of Maidstone borough council; Labour's Anne Logan, a senior history lecturer at mid-Kent college; and the Greens' Penny Kemp, a former co-chair of the party.

Over the next two weeks a record number of women (335 of the 1,950 candidates fielded by the three main parties) will vie for seats at Westminster. Raising the profile of women has become an issue for all the main parties, stung by increasing criticism of male domination in British politics. In 1979 there were just 19 female MPs; since then this has increased to the recent high of 44 (just under 7 per cent of the total). This election could produce another 20.

With so few women in politics it seems a pity that they are fighting each other rather than standing in different constituencies, but Evelyn Knowles, chair of the all-party 300 Group, whose aim is to see 300 women at Westminster, is delighted by the prospect. "I think it is very encouraging that they have all been selected," she says. "It will be interesting to see how different the campaign is from an all-male contest. It is quite possible that the women will be just as nasty as the men."

On the first day of the campaign Mrs Yates was handing out Liberal Democrat leaflets in a

canary yellow sweatshirt and squeaky new trainers at a local shopping precinct. A mother of four and already a grandmother at 43, she feels quite at home wielding a shopping trolley, discussing inflation in terms of baked beans and kissing babies who gurgle happily back at her.

"I am a housewife. I have never been gainfully employed and I feel that is a great advantage," she says. "I have time to notice how normal people have been affected by mortgages, food prices and health care."

Mrs Yates' political shopping list includes state-funded nurseries for three-year-olds, subsidised childcare, better education and training and better housing facilities for the young.

She puts the blame on Margaret Thatcher for the dearth of women in Parliament. "She showed women they could succeed but only if they beat the men at their own game. Many women have low self-esteem and she made them feel that if they were not as ruthless as her, they would never succeed."

The result is that many talented and able women avoid politics and that is a shame because they could do a lot to help other women." She stops to talk to Alan Wilson, a garage owner, his wife and their baby. Mr Wilson thinks it's a bit of a laugh having only women. "As long as they don't start telling us what to do with our football team, I'm all for a bit of feminine charm. Of course we like women down here. Don't know what their husbands will say though. I always used to feel a bit sorry for Denis."

He says. Mrs Yates' husband is notably absent on the campaign trail. As a senior local-government official he is prohibited from canvassing but has taken over the housework at home. "We haven't discussed what we will do if I become an MP. The hours are terribly long and inconvenient. My husband would probably have to work half-time;

The candidates agreed to be photographed together after in-

tense pressure and charm from the photographer. This was their first encounter and they would not have to meet again until the week of the election. Ms Kemp offered to blow up Miss Widdecombe's campaign balloon and Mrs Yates helped Mrs Logan pin on her rosette. Miss Widdecombe was a bit baffled by this sisterhood and kept her distance but even she was smiling. The others did the can-can. Privately they all expressed reservations about each other, publicly they acted like bosom friends.

Ms Kemp used to be a driving instructor and still owns a car, but nevertheless believes that the future lies with public transport.

"I want to get the message across that global warming is a reality. Take Maidstone, it has the third worst air pollution in the country and it is being stifled by the ring road that runs around it. We need to get people out of their cars and into cheap and effective public transport."

Ms Kemp wants a different way of measuring the quality of life and thinks that many women will support her. "Men think in terms of booms and recessions, and melodramatic changes. Women just want stability," she says.

"I would like to introduce a basic income scheme for everyone. That will give the unemployed, single mothers, housewives and the homeless a basic income. We have budgeted it and it should work."

A researcher at the House of Commons, for Dafydd Elis Thomas, a Plaid Cymru MP, Ms Kemp believes that Westminster is still bastion of male chauvinism. "The whole system is geared to competition and aggression. Sexual harassment and bullying run rife. Men that want to show the gentle side of their nature feel inhibited," she says.

The candidates agreed to be photographed together after in-

itself pressure and charm from the photographer. This was their first encounter and they would not have to meet again until the week of the election. Ms Kemp offered to blow up Miss Widdecombe's campaign balloon and Mrs Yates helped Mrs Logan pin on her rosette. Miss Widdecombe was a bit baffled by this sisterhood and kept her distance but even she was smiling. The others did the can-can. Privately they all expressed reservations about each other, publicly they acted like bosom friends.

Ms Kemp used to be a driving instructor and still owns a car, but nevertheless believes that the future lies with public transport.

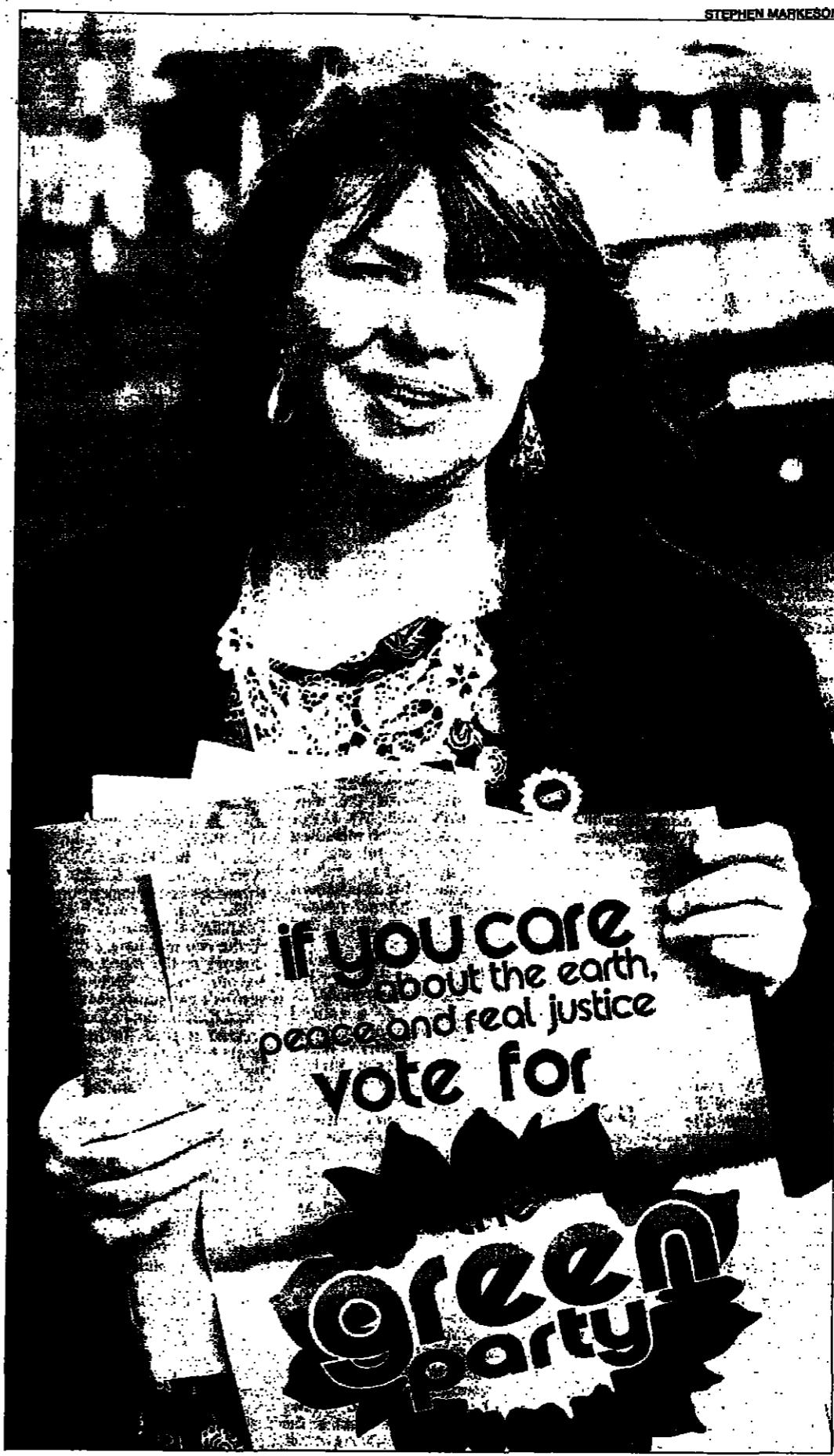
"I want to get the message across that global warming is a reality. Take Maidstone, it has the third worst air pollution in the country and it is being stifled by the ring road that runs around it. We need to get people out of their cars and into cheap and effective public transport."

Ms Kemp wants a different way of measuring the quality of life and thinks that many women will support her. "Men think in terms of booms and recessions, and melodramatic changes. Women just want stability," she says.

"I would like to introduce a basic income scheme for everyone. That will give the unemployed, single mothers, housewives and the homeless a basic income. We have budgeted it and it should work."

A researcher at the House of Commons, for Dafydd Elis Thomas, a Plaid Cymru MP, Ms Kemp believes that Westminster is still bastion of male chauvinism. "The whole system is geared to competition and aggression. Sexual harassment and bullying run rife. Men that want to show the gentle side of their nature feel inhibited," she says.

The candidates agreed to be photographed together after in-



Penny Kemp, Green candidate: 'The whole system is geared to competition and aggression'

fat M.P. I am elected for the people, not women," she says. She does feel that women have a tough time in politics. "Being female is a hindrance to getting selected. Women, particularly older ones, just won't vote for other women as their candidate. They want a nice, eligible bachelor, that's the trouble. Once you become an MP you are more likely to be noticed as a woman so it becomes beneficial," she says.

Feminists' hackles may rise at Miss Widdecombe's stance, while she in turn shudders at the word feminism. She is keenly "pro-life" and is leading campaigner on abortion issues. She also believes that mothers should stay at home when their children are young.

The canvassing ended with a Tory tea, attended by 30 women and one man, Robert Hooker, a

comptroller salesman. "All the women seem to care just as much as men about the economy, unemployment and the health service and they really know their facts. But they also care about the environment, the elderly and local issues," he says. "The only disadvantage I can see is that they can't always hold their own against men in debates."

Mrs Logan, the youngest candidate at 34, is precisely the sort of woman that Miss Widdecombe does not approve of: a working mother with a toddler. While we go out canvassing in the evening, her husband is left looking after their daughter.

"I will be a parliamentary widower," Mr Logan says. "I don't

mind, I am proud of her and I hope my daughter will be too."

Mrs Logan wants more children and if elected will fight for better parental leave and childcare support. "Fair pay and flexible working hours are all essential to help women and men combine caring for a family with earning a living," she says.

"I enjoy the political world. I have no trouble in matching the men and making speeches. I beat three men to get the nomination."

In the uncertain world of election forecasting Maidstone is one place where one accusation cannot be made: after April 9, the constituency's M.P. will be a woman and nobody will be able to say she got in on the woman's vote.

Blame it on biology

Women behaving badly may be suffering PMT or may simply be angry: who can tell the difference?

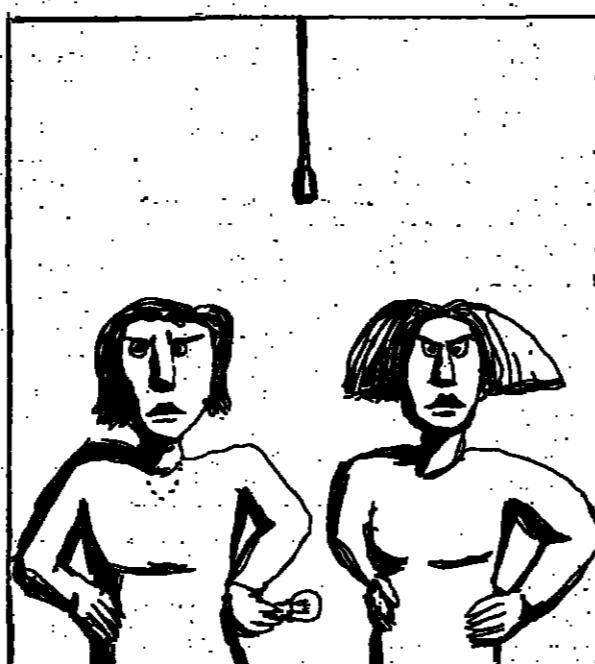
Executives at the electronics giant Fujitsu are unlikely to be splitting their sides at a recent joke about premenstrual tension (PMT): Why does it take two women with PMT to change a light bulb? BECAUSE IT JUST DOES, ALL RIGHT!

Last week the company had to pay out nearly £1,000 after an industrial tribunal found that a woman employee who had been sacked for hitting her boss during a bout of PMT had been unfairly dismissed.

In offices elsewhere reactions to the gag may reflect both a mixture of relief that a once taboo subject can be laughed about and a fear that we are in danger of going OTT about PMT, using it as a scatter gun excuse for every shortcoming or upset in working life.

Dr Katharina Dalton, the gynaecologist and endocrinologist whose pioneering work on the syndrome has made medical and legal history, turns down at least as many cases to plead in mitigation as she accepts. "I get angered by bandwagon jumpers. It is a great shame because the genuine cases deserve every consideration and thoughtfulness. They can be heartbreaking."

Extreme near-psychotic manifestations of the phenomenon such as those suffered by Anna Reynolds who



battered her mother to death or Nicola Owen, an arsonist who had made more than 40 suicide attempts by the age of 17, are fortunately rare. Lesser symptoms however, such as ill-temper, mood swings or depression are common: Dr Dalton estimates that nearly a third of all women will suffer effects severe enough to merit time off work or consultation with a doctor.

Part of the difficulty in establishing the syndrome's bona fides is that as with backache or fatigue it is almost impossible to measure physiologically. There is one test which measures the level of a substance called sex hormone binding globulin in the blood (a low level is an indicator) but since this cannot be done if there has been any medication, even a vitamin tablet in the previous week or if the patient is obese, unduly hairy or affected by thyroid or liver problems, its use is limited.

There are however, Dr Dalton says, "diagnostic pointers". The syndrome must be once a month for at least three months and there must be witness to its effects. The other thing is that the woman must be absolutely normal for the rest of the month.

"The incident of crime has to be committed alone. So it won't wash for there to be three male bank robbers and one female, though I have had that tried on me. By and large there should be no

motivation. When such women shoplift, for example, they might steal infant-ski clothes though they are neither skiers nor mothers."

Even where the authenticity of menstrual problems is not in doubt, the victim must still address the practical dilemma of how public she wants them made privacy and special consideration are mutually exclusive.

Moreover, the debate raises the question of whether the workplace should accommodate itself to the special needs of women or whether women should accommodate themselves to the demands of the workplace. A generation of women who have bobbed in the loo in order to maintain a stiff upper lip outside can feel embarrassed, even betrayed, by others who demand "give me a break. I'm getting my period".

Pat Dixon, a psychologist at John Nicholson Associates,

"The problem now for men is whether they should even acknowledge it because it marks one sex out from the other. Then there are men who want to treat women according to their needs, but are not sure if that is what women want. They feel it is all rather dangerous ground."

Similarly women who do not suffer PMT find it galling for every outburst of bad mood to be attributed, even if only by a knowing look, to the syndrome: blaming it on biology robs them of the freedom to be angry or annoyed for good reason.

Inevitably every mention of PMT will provide men with ammunition about female instability and unreliability. To this Dr Dalton retorts that far more alcoholics and criminals are men than are women. "If you want a decent sober, hard-working employee you should pick a woman every time. PMT should not be used against women but perhaps it should help us be more flexible both at work and at home. Men and children can suffer from a woman's moods sometimes as much as she does."

Dr Dalton's latest work suggests that symptoms are closely linked to an intermittent lack of starchily foods which in turn affects blood sugar levels and that the most effective treatment may simply involve eating properly.

David Holtton who with his wife Wendy helps run the advice and information service PMS Help thinks women should take responsibility for getting help. "If it is treated it should not disqualify anyone from any sort of work, but if it is left untreated then frankly I think it is a disqualification from anything which would be adversely affected by violent fluctuations in mood or behaviour flare ups, most higher jobs in fact."

LIZ GILL

Some mothers are having their daughters shrunk

Cut down in size

How tall is too tall for a woman? Anything over five foot eleven at least if you're Norwegian.

For there, in the land of tall people, mothers who fear their daughters will attain that towering height are taking them to special clinics for height reduction therapy.

According to a report in *The Lancet*, more than 500 Norwegian pre-pubertal girls have successfully been treated for height reduction. After gauging eventual height by radiography, treatment consists of the administration of oestrogen for about three years, and if successful, results in a height reduction of two or three inches.

But in the days when tall women such as Jerry Hall and Janet Street-Porter, both nudging six foot, can become so famous and successful, and when you almost can't be too tall to be a top model, why do women continue to be self-conscious about their height? After all, several studies have shown that tall women, like tall men, are perceived to be more intelligent, capable and authoritative than short ones.

Jerry Hall, the founder and chairman of the Child Growth Foundation, believes the impetus comes mainly from the mothers, rather than the children. "Unless there is great height abnormality, children don't mind being tall," she says. "Often, the mothers are taller than average, and remember how they felt when they seemed to be giants in their school."

Six months ago, Philip

Heinrich, himself six foot eight, started the Tall Persons Club in Britain. He now pecked. But apart from that, very tall people get tired of everybody they meet commenting on their height. Over the years, we've heard them all ad nauseam."

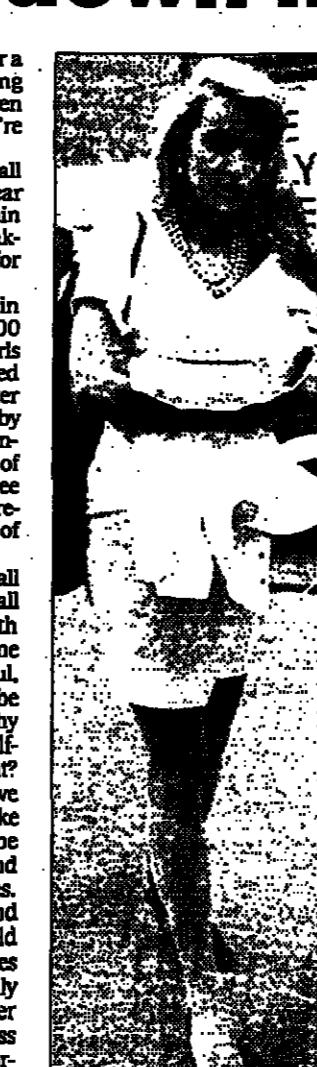
The idea that tall women are automatically very self-confident is a myth, he says. "Some very tall women such as Janet Street-Porter and Germaine Greer are exceptionally intelligent people who are not afraid to open their mouths. But if you're just an ordinary girl trying to make a living as a secretary in the suburbs and you're six foot two, then life can be very difficult indeed."

Hormone treatment to reduce height was first introduced in 1946 at the Massachusetts General Hospital, and has been controversial ever since.

Michael Preece, a professor of child health and growth at the Institute of Child Health says: "The Norwegians have always sworn by oestrogen treatment, but in our experience it's very unsatisfactory and doesn't even guarantee results. Treatment for tall boys is even less satisfactory."

A treatment to treat tall stature using the anti-growth hormone somatostatin is being trialed at several hospitals in the UK. It works by suppressing the body's secretion of growth hormone and is given by injection. Like the hormone therapy, it has to be given before puberty.

LIZ HODGKINSON
Tall Persons Club, 29 Stanhope Street, Hereford, HR4 0HA (0432 271818). Please include large size. **The Child Growth Foundation** is at 2 Mayfield Avenue, Chiswick, London, W4 (081 995 0257).



Model height: Jerry Hall has more than 1,000 members, many of them women of six foot or more.
It's still the case that a short man with a tall wife is perceived as being hen-

© Times Newspapers Ltd 1992

Election in search of news

The manipulation of the medium, not the message, could leave voters up in the air

On March 29 last year the French philosopher Jean Baudrillard wrote an essay entitled *The Gulf War Has Not Taken Place*. So much for French philosophers, you might say. Well yes, but this is not so stupid an idea as it might seem. Baudrillard's argument, broadly, was that faced with such a babble of media-generated information it was impossible to truly "know" if a war had taken place or whether a simulation, on the television screens and newspaper pages of the world, had been played out.

Fanciful? Yes, but the ideas underlying this theory have value at this election, the first truly post-modern one where as much interest — if not more — is gleaned from the medium and how it is used as the message and what it means. Everybody is monitoring this election, but what is it?

We have been bombarded with an election bubble unlike any before: the media has created 38 per cent of all election stories, according to a Loughborough University analysis in *The Guardian*. This navel-gazing does not solely happen on TV. Newspapers monitor each other, and overtly politicised ones are praised for the ingenuity of their interpretations of facts, and, in one case, for delaying the scoop of the year for a day in order to hammer the Labour budget. The myriad polls reflect no consensus.

John Major summed it up nicely on Saturday when asked by the BBC to respond to two polls that would appear in the Sunday press. "There aren't five," he said, hence he felt no need to respond, as they were, he later told Brian Walden. "All over the place".

In an era when the media has wised-up to phone opportunities and the electorate can spot a sound bite blindfold at 1,000 yards, where politicians are so well-trained in the guerrilla art of the "studio debate" that anything other than a goalless draw is almost impossible to achieve, there are precious few opportunities for voters to grasp at the truth.

Only in the single head-to-head interview can the politicians be got at, revealed unencumbered by packaging, 20-second philosophies and cheering supporters.

In his book, *Our Masters' Voices*, Max Atkinson lists three main rhetorical strategies which elicit applause for politicians. These are claptrap, "a trick device or language designed to catch applause"; Oxford English Dictionary, the three-point list, "they have an air of unity or completeness about them"; Atkinson says, and, finally, the "contrapositive pairs" or antitheses, with their

considerable advantages both for projecting a completion point and delivering a punchline.

In three recent examples: Sir Robin Day's interview with Paddy Ashdown, Brian Walden's encounter with the prime minister and Jonathan Dimbleby's with John Smith, these tricks of rhetoric were apparent.

Sir Robin showed that he, too, is infected with election bubble. He began by asking Mr Ashdown if the Liberal Democrats could win, and followed by saying: "Nobody thinks you'll be able to do it." He wasted the first five minutes of a 25-minute interview on media-driven speculation. "I hear... an informal understanding exists with the Labour party," he said. But Mr Ashdown had learnt his claptrap, too: "You hear wrong," he said after a long pause. Mr Ashdown emerged, rhetorically at least, a winner.

Mr Walden's approach is the closest to classic forms of debate. As with his famous post-Lawson resignation interview with Mrs Thatcher, he started the long questions early with Mr Major this Sunday. A question including a thesis took one minute, 18 seconds to deliver. In a culture used to the quick fire knockout of *Newsworld* or Channel 4 News, it was almost boring.

But Mr Walden tempers his lengthy, finely attuned questions with terse interruptions. When Mr Major tells him he is "too black and white", he asks for the "grey" answers. But Mr Major does not bite. Even when Mr Walden patronises: "I will ask the question," Mr Major keeps calm. He uses some contrastive pairs, but few three-point lists — for all the talk of Mr Kinnock's verbosity, Mr Major has trouble marshalling facts, too.

For all the minutiae of the spat, not one newsworthy fact emerges. Just look at Monday morning's front pages which concentrated on the return of Mrs Thatcher.

So what is the answer, if even our best interviewers seem to be overwhelmed? The BBC's *On the Record* featured Jonathan Dimbleby interviewing John Smith. It was less demotic than Walden, with Mr Dimbleby asking quiet but searching questions, quoting union leader's views which seemed to contradict Mr Smith's.

But Mr Smith played straight without rhetoric, just simple answers. The news item from the programme that made the papers was a poll which followed it.

Although there can be no doubt that the election is taking place, it is far less easy to say just what it is.

ROBIN HUNT

briefly restated

the news item from the programme that made the papers was a poll which followed it.

Although there can be no doubt that the election is taking place, it is far less easy to say just what it is.



Pressing on: Neil Kinnock, right, watched by Nigel Williamson, centre, meets tomorrow's voters on the last election campaign trail

Campaign on a knife's edge

Nigel Williamson recalls his finest hour after weeks of wining and dining the press for Neil Kinnock during the 1987 election

As the nation was going to the polls to vote Mrs Thatcher back into Downing Street on June 11, 1987, I was enjoying a leisurely breakfast in the tiny Welsh terrace house that is Neil Kinnock's constituency home.

The sun poured into the Poldellan flat two-up two-down.

At the end of a long and doomed campaign, the mood among the Labour leader's entourage was surprisingly sunny. Mr Kinnock himself, although he looked weary, seemed relaxed. In less than 24 hours he knew he would be going back to his London home in Ealing and the familiar problems of Opposition.

Over breakfast we joked about the fact that most of the leader's dozen closest aides were disenfranchised. In Wales for polling day, almost every one of us had forgotten to apply for a postal vote in our London constituencies, many of them highly marginal.

Until the phone call from Vincent Hanna, the BBC presenter who fronted *Newsworld*'s famously accurate exit polls, our oversight had scarcely seemed important.

I had been asked by Mr Kinnock to join Patricia Hewitt and Hilary Coffman to make up a team of three press officers to shepherd the 50-strong press corps which dogged the Labour leader on his whirlwind tour around the country. For more than three weeks I had spent up to 16 hours a day with the man who would be prime minister.

On that election day morning, Mr Hanna was encouraging. I think it was Charles Clarke, Mr Kinnock's chief aide, who answered the phone, but Mr Kinnock was soon talking animatedly to the BBC man. Mr Hanna did not tell Mr Kinnock he could win, but certainly suggested that the Tory lead might be far smaller than predicted.

Ms Hewitt, too, spent as little time with the "replies", her name for the press, as possible. But Hilary Coffman, a charming, highly professional press officer, had a sense of fun which went down well.

The "eat drink and be merry" approach worked, never more so than when Mr Kinnock made a

hopes was perhaps the cruellest blow of all. As I sat later that night with Neil and Glenys Kinnock at the back of the hall where the Iswyn count was being conducted, we cursed *Newsworld* for its exit poll which had predicted a Tory lead of only 5 per cent lead almost as roundly as we cursed the victorious Tories.

Yet, despite the extent of Labour's humiliation, Mr Kinnock bore defeat with dignity.

My task on the campaign team had been a simple but enjoyable one. I spent half my time with Mr Kinnock, and the rest fraternising with the press, on the instructions of both Mr Kinnock and Pat Hewitt, his chief press secretary.

Two weeks after polling, Mr Kinnock wrote to thank me: "... I am particularly grateful for the efforts which you made to prevent the wolves from being too ravaging."

My efforts had, indeed, been considerable. I had, with relish, eaten my way through the most expensive menus and swilled champagne on journalists' expense accounts. It was a vital job, because Mr Kinnock himself stayed, mainly, aloof.

Alistair Campbell of the *Mirror* was very much part of the leader's inner circle and *The Independent* and *The Guardian* occasionally enjoyed private briefings. The rest scarcely saw him.

Ms Hewitt, too, spent as little time with the "replies", her name for the press, as possible. But Hilary Coffman, a charming, highly professional press officer, had a sense of fun which went down well.

The "eat drink and be merry" approach worked, never more so than when Mr Kinnock made a

politically sensitive trip to Liverpool. It had been kept quiet from the press and from most of the local party on Merseyside, still in the grip of Militants. Ms Hewitt and Ms Coffman both went sick on the morning we were due to fly to the land of Derek Hatton, leaving me to cope with 50 journalists on potentially the most explosive trip of the tour.

My technique was crude, but effective. I appealed to barroom companionhip. The journalists under-wrote the story. The worst even *The Sun* could do was to recycle a routine attack by David

Opposition.

My task on the campaign team had been a simple but enjoyable one. I spent half my time with Mr Kinnock, and the rest fraternising with the press, on the instructions of both Mr Kinnock and Pat Hewitt, his chief press secretary.

Two weeks after polling, Mr Kinnock wrote to thank me: "... I am particularly grateful for the efforts which you made to prevent the wolves from being too ravaging."

My efforts had, indeed, been considerable. I had, with relish, eaten my way through the most expensive menus and swilled champagne on journalists' expense accounts. It was a vital job, because Mr Kinnock himself stayed, mainly, aloof.

Alistair Campbell of the *Mirror* was very much part of the leader's inner circle and *The Independent* and *The Guardian* occasionally enjoyed private briefings. The rest scarcely saw him.

Ms Hewitt, too, spent as little time with the "replies", her name for the press, as possible. But Hilary Coffman, a charming, highly professional press officer, had a sense of fun which went down well.

The "eat drink and be merry" approach worked, never more so than when Mr Kinnock made a

mixing freely with the press, and was glad of their company while she kept out of her husband's way during his notoriously tortuous speech-writing sessions. On one famous occasion, we arrived at a Darlington hotel with four hours to kill before that evening's rally. It also happened to be the birthday of Mike Cassell, of *The Financial Times*. Mr Kinnock disappeared to work on his speech. Downstairs, the champagne flowed and, by 8pm, Mrs Kinnock was sitting

at a table assisting at least two journalists who were the worse for wear to place calls to their London offices on a mobile phone.

No photographer there dreamt of capturing the scene for their papers.

Mr Kinnock's relations with the press were more difficult. In his younger days he had been a regular in the press bar at the House of Commons, freely trading jokes with journalists.

No doubt he was cultivating influential reporters, but he also seemed genuinely to enjoy the company. Over

the years, however, he had grown increasingly wary of journalists, surely more to his own disadvantage than to that of the press lobby.

Two incidents stand out as regards Mr Kinnock's relations with the press. The first occurred during a trip to the West Midlands when I told him that Jon Smith, the Press Association reporter, had filed a report accusing the Labour leader of backing Militant. All Mr Kinnock had said was that he supported all Labour candidates in the region — which included Dave Nellist.

Mr Kinnock was furious. I was quietly taken on one side by Charles Clarke and told: "We try not to tell him things like that."

Shortly afterwards, I saw why when Mr Kinnock turned on Smith at a press conference and answered a question by declaring angrily, "Don't patronise me, sonny". Smith's colleagues gleefully filed stories about the notorious Kinnock temper.

The second time a journalist's comment got under the Kinnock skin was more private. The early part of each day was usually spent on "Red Rose One", the battered old Britannia which flew the leader and his entourage around the country. It was a useful opportunity to plan the day, and read the papers.

One morning Mr Kinnock was reading John Grigg's column in this newspaper when he suddenly screwed the paper into a ball and threw it in disgust on the floor. The phrase that had provoked the outburst? Grigg had called the Labour leader an "intellectual pygmy" in comparison with some of his predecessors.

Despite such flashes of temper, my proximity to the Labour leader did not lead me to believe he was unfriendly. There were gaffes — particularly over defence in the David Frost interview, and the confusion over taxation. But Mr Kinnock showed a tremendous ability to absorb pressure.

His political instincts are finely tuned. Five years ago I repeatedly heard him tell anyone who would listen that if the Tories won the poll tax would dominate the next Parliament. He even predicted that it would destroy Mrs Thatcher. The rest is history.

Yet, above all, he showed himself to be an ordinary man. He is now pitted against an opponent who also prides himself on his ordinariness. If Chris Patten and his cohorts in Tory Central Office still believe that Mr Kinnock's personality is Labour's Achilles heel, those on the last campaign trail saw enough to suspect that they may well have made a serious misjudgment.

CREATIVE MARKETING & MEDIA

BBC BBC BBC

News Producer & Reporter

BBC South & East

BBC Radio Surrey

BBC Radio Surrey has been on air for just 4 months, broadcasting more than 40 hours a week of speech based programming from purpose built studios on the campus of Surrey University in Guildford. We've just promoted two of our staff, so there's a vacancy for a news producer and a reporter in the team.

You'll be joining a small, dedicated and hard working group, who are committed to the BBC's belief in news and speech based radio. We want to appoint adaptable people who will want to get involved in every aspect of building up a new radio station. You'll be good at making contacts and digging out stories in an area which is new to BBC Local Radio, but which is very rewarding for enthusiastic journalists.

Producers' duties include responsibility for preparation and presentation of bulletins and current affairs programmes, and supervision of reporters.

Applicants for the producer post must have a minimum of two years' experience in radio journalism, reporter applicants must have some practical experience of working in a radio newsroom. Both need a journalistic qualification, good microphone voice, the ability to operate technical equipment and to work under pressure in a small team. They must have a current driving licence and be prepared to live close to the station. Frequent shift work will be involved. Knowledge of the area is desirable.

Producer salary £15,075 - £21,415 p.a. plus an allowance of £3,000.

Reporter salary £11,906 - £16,907 p.a. plus an allowance of £3,000.

For an application form please telephone 081-207 8988 (24 hours) quoting the appropriate reference.

Application forms to be returned by April 6th.

WORKING FOR EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY

CAREERLINE

THE FASTEST WAY TO THE LATEST JOBS, JUST DIAL AND LISTEN...

London	South West
Management & marketing	Management & marketing
Manufacturing	Manufacturing
Information technology	Information technology
Retail	Retail
Finance	Finance
Healthcare	Healthcare
Engineering	Engineering
Transport	Transport
Food	Food
Chemical	Chemical
Automotive	Automotive
Electronics	Electronics
Pharmaceuticals	Pharmaceuticals
Telecommunications	Telecommunications
Plastics	Plastics
Leisure	Leisure
Construction	Construction
Automotive	Automotive
Electronics	Electronics
Pharmaceuticals	Pharmaceuticals
Telecommunications	Telecommunications
Plastics	Plastics
Leisure	Leisure
Construction	Construction
Automotive	Automotive
Electronics	Electronics
Pharmaceuticals	Pharmaceuticals
Telecommunications	Telecommunications
Plastics	Plastics
Leisure	Leisure
Construction	Construction
Automotive	Automotive
Electronics	Electronics
Pharmaceuticals	Pharmaceuticals
Telecommunications	Telecommunications
Plastics	Plastics
Leisure	Leisure
Construction	Construction
Automotive	Automotive
Electronics	Electronics
Pharmaceuticals	Pharmaceuticals
Telecommunications	Telecommunications
Plastics	Plastics
Leisure	Leisure
Construction	Construction
Automotive	Automotive
Electronics	Electronics
Pharmaceuticals	Pharmaceuticals
Telecommunications	Telecommunications
Plastics	Plastics
Leisure	Leisure
Construction	Construction
Automotive	Automotive
Electronics	Electronics
Pharmaceuticals	Pharmaceuticals
Telecommunications	Telecommunications
Plastics	Plastics
Leisure	Leisure
Construction	Construction
Automotive	Automotive
Electronics	Electronics
Pharmaceuticals	Pharmaceuticals
Telecommunications	Telecommunications



Let me make it clear: detailed though the reporting has been, I do not know precisely what passed between Charles Anson, the Queen's press secretary, and Paul Reynolds, the BBC's diplomatic and court correspondent, last Thursday. Nor does anyone else.

I am aware of the hypocritical hula-hoop which erupted following their talk after the announcement of the curious breakdown of the Duke and Duchess of York's marriage. I know Mr Anson and Mr Reynolds and I am familiar with the rules that govern the conduct of relations between them — press officer and journalist. They are the same at both ends of the Mall.

So let us start with the rules. There are three governing the transmission of information to journalists.

1: On the record. Any information given and remarks made can be quoted and attributed by the informant.

Confusion reigns at the Palace

2: Unattributable, otherwise known as the lobby system: here the information imparted can be freely used but the source must not be disclosed. Hence the description of me in No 10 in the 1980s as "sources close to the prime minister".

3: Off the record. Under this rule, devised in a more honourable age of journalism, nothing may be imparted or broadcast. It is extremely risky, to say the least, to give any journalist anything you do not wish to be made public. And fastidious journalists refuse to receive anything off the record, for their hands would be tied if they got the same information elsewhere.

There is nothing complicated about these rules. The problem lies in the way

journalists choose to interpret them. My understanding is that Charles Anson believed he was having a background, off-the-record chat with Mr Reynolds. Mr Reynolds clearly treated it as an unattributable occasion, demonstrating that there is a fine line between unattributable and on the record when you identify the source establishment where the informant works.

Given the forensic zeal with which journalists bring these days to identify who said what to whom, it is only a matter of hours before the informant is identified, exhibited in

the stocks, intimidated by the muckers and pike-men and left professionally for dead — only to rise again on the third day when another diversion occurs. I have been shot so many times that John Biffen's "sever" — as he charmingly described me — is lead-lined.

This brings me to Mr Anson. He is a personal friend. He was a very effective member of my press office in Mrs Thatcher's early days. They come no more upright and decent than Charles Anson.

Knowing him for the professional he

is, my guess is that he rehearsed the Duchess's manifest difficulties in adapting to the royal fishbowl. It would have been surprising had he not indicated some pain in royal circles over her reported behaviour and the breakup of another royal marriage. Otherwise he would not have been credible.

Nor would he have been human had he failed to speculate on the source of the leak to the *Daily Mail* which made the election seem more than unusually boring.

I often told successive Palace press secretaries that, paradoxically, they had to handle the really tough trade. Which brings me to Mr Reynolds who, paradoxically again, is anything but that.

He is immensely experienced. He

flew several missions with Mrs Thatcher abroad and helpfully interviewed me after a young soldier sunk his rifle butt in my ample fun in Kano. But he has more than a touch of arrogance and superiority, which was shown to advantage when I thanked him for tipping me off about a story his inventive colleagues were concocting after a briefing of mine in Switzerland. Perish the thought, he indicated disdainfully, that he might have been instrumental in helping me!

So what conclusion do I draw? Well, Mr Anson was either altogether too trusting, or there was genuine confusion over the interview terms, or he was badly let down. If I had been at the heart of a similar shindig, the BBC would by now be looking for another court correspondent. But then I am not an officer and a gentleman like Mr Anson.

• Sir Bernard Ingham was Mrs Thatcher's chief press secretary

Auntie goes into the risk business

The head of BBC Television has launched an adventurous five-year plan to put the Corporation back onto the high ground. Will it work? Melinda Wittstock investigates

Battle plans to win the hearts and minds of television viewers have been drawn up by a BBC determined to justify its licence fee as commercial competitors threaten more alarming advances in the ratings war.

With morale of programme makers at its lowest ebb, the managing director of BBC Television has issued a rallying call to his troops, exhorting them to retake the high ground of broadcasting with the type of fearless risk-taking that long ago earned the Corporation its global reputation for innovation and quality.

Will Wyatt's five-year plan will banish repeats, American series and big-prize game shows from peaktime BBC schedules. Instead, viewers will be treated to an extra 130 hours of original drama plus 50 more hours of new comedy each year, starting this autumn. New light entertainment formats, subtler and more upmarket than those of ITV, will also "catch the audience's imagination".

Consistent with the usual lofty pronouncements issued from the offices of BBC executives, programme-makers have been told they must "aspire to excellence", be prepared to do "difficult things, big things to change public perception about what television can achieve" and put BBC Television "in the lead with quality and innovation".

Mr Wyatt's initiative follows last autumn's collapse in the popularity of BBC1. Ratings fell to their lowest level in years to languish at around 33.34 per cent, a full 10 points behind ITV. Expensive new dramas, such as *Trainer and Specials*, *London's Burning*, *Prime Suspect* and *The Bill*, while audiences deserted stale stand-bys like *Wogan* and *That's Life*. Replacements for retired old hits like *Howard's Way*, *All Creatures Great and Small* and *Bergerac* failed to come through. More often than not, eight of the top ten rated programmes each week are on ITV.

With its public funding, range of services and very ethos under



Will Wyatt: at the cutting edge

Corporation cannot risk being marginalised as merely a provider of esoteric, eccentric programmes no one else wants to broadcast and few want to watch.

Free-marketeers, indeed the Home Secretary Kenneth Baker, may criticise the BBC for being "anti-competitive", but Mr Wyatt knows that unless the overwhelming majority of Britons turn BBC1 and BBC2 each week, the government of the day will reduce, or replace, the licence fee. "We have to provide something for everyone," he says.

While Mr Wyatt is adamant that the BBC should not lose its common touch, he betrays a willingness to position BBC1 slightly more up-market than ITV.

"We want programmes to reflect the right values. Tacky relationship games, for instance, just don't fit easily with the BBC's purpose. Jonathan Powell [the BBC1 controller] tried out *Old Flakes*, but it just didn't look right on the BBC. Central has now picked it up," he says. *Old Flakes*, a raunchier version of *Blind Date*, attracted an audience of six million when BBC1 ran pilot episodes.

"We do want to provide a lot of highly-watched programmes, but we are not going to do it by mimicking every format our competitors come up with," he says. Staff are being told that quality must never be sacrificed in the quest for high ratings, although capturing a large audience need not be a testament to lack of quality. Mr Wyatt offers *Noel's House Party*, with audiences of 12.7 million, as an example of quality with a mass-market appeal.

Music and arts programming must also be "refocused" to appeal to a wider cross-section of the population. Both channels have been called on to provide more coverage of the mainstream and the classical in order to correct a disproportionate number of shows for a minority of trendier viewers. "We put design on the agenda, but we must now ensure that the whole of Britain's cultural heritage is regularly covered," Wyatt says. New composers, artists, choreographers, filmmakers and poets have meanwhile been commissioned to create new works for BBC2 this spring in *Commissions and Collaborations*, an effort to keep the BBC at the cutting edge of cultural activity.

Although repeats will no longer be used to "plug gaps in the schedule", Mr Wyatt plans inventive use of archive drama and comedy material. *Lime Grove Day* was an innovative way of getting some value out of our archives, he says. Indeed the popularity of repeats on Channel 4's *TV Heaven* on Saturday nights has led Alan Yentob, controller of BBC2, to answer back this spring with *TV Hell*, a light-hearted look at some of the most notorious television turkeys.

Bracing itself for an inevitable decline in ratings as the number

of Bafta comedy award winners: Richard Wilson and Arnette Crosbie star in *One Foot In the Grave*

and competitiveness of new channels increases, the BBC has opted to measure its performance by the number of people it reaches at some point each week. Only a year ago, Jonathan Powell was quoted saying that ratings of 37.40 per cent were a "proper share", but Mr Wyatt will not now be drawn on new bottom line audience numbers.

From this autumn, he will be content as long as BBC1 and BBC2 continue to be watched for a minimum of two hours each week in at least 90 per cent of television households. By this measurement, both channels are attracting as many viewers this year as last, but people are watching 30 minutes less each week.

The common wisdom throughout the industry, however, is that the BBC will have a difficult time

persuading politicians to keep the fee at 90 per cent or if BBC1's average weekly ratings drop below 25 per cent. But for the Corporation, which has freed an extra £60 million each year to revitalise BBC1's drama and comedy output, such a domesday scenario, while a real worry, seems unlikely to inspire before 1996.

Rage and diversity of output is the key. "If ratings go down a point or two and what we have on are repeats, and acquired US output, then we've got a real problem. But if ratings go down and what we've got on is terrific, no one is going to mind," Mr Wyatt says.

Meanwhile many people in the BBC, indeed the television industry as a whole, are worried by the apparent demoralisation of many

"We do want to provide a lot of highly-watched programmes, but we are not going to do it by mimicking"

WILL WYATT

programme-makers. Ripples of redundancies are transforming more and more BBC producers, writers and directors into nervous people on one-month contracts, while many of those who remain complain that they are being turned into accountants by the reforms, which force BBC TV resource departments to compete with outside contractors in an effort to cut waste and inefficiency.

Even senior programme executives have agonised over the Producer Choice reforms announced last October: they feel they will spend too much of their creative time haggling over the prices of crews and makeup artists.

Meanwhile John Birt, who takes over from Sir Michael Checkland as director-general in April next year, has also frustrated creative talent with his preoccupation for news and current affairs. His critics tend to talk off the record, but Alan Plater, the acclaimed television writer whose latest credit is *Granada's Maigret*, says: "Drama writers and producers are aware of a bias at the very top of the BBC towards news and current affairs. They look up and see people like Michael Checkland, John Birt and Marmaduke Hussey at the top and they think: 'This is not quite the Corporation I grew up in.' If I had a particularly dangerous idea, I would now go to Channel 4."

Un certainty and insecurity have never been conducive to the risk-taking necessary to produce the sort of ground-breaking hits Mr Wyatt is determined to provide viewers. Not surprisingly he admits that his document *The Path Ahead*, is aimed at boosting such flagging morale and keeping talent loyal. "We have to ensure that the best talent works for us, and to do that we must create the right creative environment," he says.

"The BBC must be the most adventurous place, the place where the highest standards are set."

Mr Wyatt's blueprint for the future is hardly revolutionary. But his rallying call is wholly necessary: "In times of uncertainty, when morale is low, it is important to make explicit what is often implicit, to spell out to people our core values of excellence, range and creative ambition. We need another golden age of BBC Television."

Fleet Street saves millions after the listings battle



Radio Times and TV Times are thought to have spent more than £1 million each to protect their billings copyright

Britain's newspaper and magazine publishers are celebrating a significant windfall. After a year of uncertainty, the government's Copyright Tribunal last week ruled firmly in their favour in their dispute with the BBC and Independent Television Publications (ITP) over charges for television listings.

Instead of over £13 million, as demanded by the BBC and ITP, the publishers will only have to pay around £2 million. Twenty national newspapers, which were looking at a collective bill of £2.2 million, now have to find less than £400,000. It all goes to boost the bottom-line.

"This is a very good result from newspapers' point of view," said Jeremy Deedes, executive editor of both the *Daily Mail* and the *Sunday Telegraph*. Under the original proposals from the BBC and ITP, his two titles would have paid £187,000 and £37,000 respectively. Now their bills will be only £24,000 and £1,870 — sums arrived at by multiplying the tribunal's suggested royalty of 0.003 pence by a paper's circulation and then by the number of days it publishes listings.

The acrimonious dispute arose after the 1990 Broadcasting Act. This placed a statutory duty on the BBC and ITV to provide the date, time and title of their programmes to any publisher free of charge. It confirmed that the two broadcasters retained the copyright on additional programme information, or "billings", such as the

The BBC and ITV look like losers after last week's copyright finding, but they may still have some cards to play

names of the stars. However, the act also abolished the "duopoly", or exclusive right enjoyed by the BBC's commercial arm, BBC Enterprises (BBC1), and ITP to publish these billings in their own proprietary magazines, *Radio Times* and *TV Times*.

From March 1991, there was to be an "open market" in television listings and, ever since, BBC1 and ITP have been trying to maximise their revenue from their copyright in that additional information, the billings. According to reliable estimates, they have spent over £1 million each, mainly in legal fees, in what now seems to have been a fruitless defensive campaign.

Dr John Thomas, director of BBC1's magazine division, is "most unhappy" at the tribunal's "drastic undervaluation" of their copyright. He and Nigel Davidson, his opposite number at ITP, a subsidiary of the International Publishing Corporation (IPC), made decide by mid-April whether to incur further costs by appealing against last week's decision.

The tribunal looked back to the Broadcasting Act to make its ruling. One of the act's aims, it interpreted, was to make a wide range of programmes and types of broadcasting "available". It could only do this if individuals can easily find out what is on, so

that they can choose for themselves what they want to see." The "public interest" need for "wide dissemination of and easy access to programme material" was more important than the copyright holders' financial interests, the tribunal said.

Such arguments had not escaped the BBC or ITV companies which, in a complicated manoeuvre, had assigned their copyright

to ITP. The tribunal noted, for example, how a speaker at the BBC Board of Management in early 1991 remarked: "A commercially sound solution might conflict with the BBC's public service obligations."

However, the BBC fought its corner, on its estimate that rival publishers could expect windfall profits of more than £60 million a year from television listings. Though this argument was rejected

by the tribunal, Dr Thomas notes that several national newspapers have recently started seven-day listings supplements, in direct competition with *Radio Times* and *TV Times*. He says this is remarkable considering that they argued at the tribunal that television listings were not important to either their circulation or advertising revenues.

Following the lead of *The Sun* and *Daily Mirror* late last year, the *Daily Telegraph*, *Sunday Times*, *Daily Express*, *Daily Mail*, *Daily Star* and *Today* have all introduced seven-day listings in recent weeks. *The Guardian* and *The Independent* are expected to follow suit.

Mr Deedes now foresees listings becoming "one of the regular services" offered by newspapers: "they're never going to be a great money-spinner, but they will be among the things you expect to find in your paper, like race cards and stock prices".

To provide this "service", a new sub-industry is developing. CNS, a subsidiary of the Press Agency, is one of four main companies aiming to take the sweat out of listings for newspapers and magazines. Chris Mellor, CNS's managing director, notes that his listings — priced between £8 and £60 per day — are very cost-effective compared with normal editorial charges. BBC1 even has its own subsidiary, Broadcast Data Services, which turns over £12 million a year packaging listings for more than 40 other publishers. Mellor hints that BDS's closeness to the BBC gives it an unfair competitive advantage, but Robert Hall, BDS's managing director, dismisses this.

The prospect of an appeal has been restricted by the fact that ITP's copyright runs out at the end of 1992. This is likely to deter its parent, IPC, from committing further funds to a battle with a tribunal which has just pronounced so conclusively. ITV companies will discuss their reaction to the tribunal's decision on April 6. They are likely to set up an agency, to be run alongside their new central scheduler, to provide their statutory information and market their own value added programme listings.

Tony Elliott, publisher of *Time Out* and chairman of the TV Listings Campaign against the "duopoly", forecasts that, within a year, BBC1 will also have to abandon its efforts to charge for billings. He says that, now "the mess has cleared and people can make a rational choice", there will be new entrants in the listings market. And he offers "an idea for free" to illustrate the way things are going — an A5 listings magazine, subsidised by an oil company and given out to any customer who spends more than £20 on petrol.

ANDREW LYCETT

071-481 4481

Maine - Tucker
Recruitment Consultants**8 OUT OF 10, WHO EXPRESSED A PREFERENCE PREFERRED...
Circa £20-£25,000**

This Company's Television Commercials! In the grey of this recession, one company still glitters like a diamond, their turnover is soaring & every week of the year there are new Commercials. Because of their ever-increasing roster of Clients they need a special person to work with them who plans the financial side of Commercials. In this very competitive field, that's why this Commercial only heralds yet another brilliant creative thought, but that the cost is attractive to the Client. Are you able to thrive in the Creative world that surrounds Commercials? Have you a cool head for figures? You could be an Office Manager now, in Admin or a PA or a skilled Accountant... wherever you are... you will have to use your head for systems to stay on top. Your experience must include knowledge of Broadcasts, VAT, Income Tax, Rates, End of Year Figures etc. The 2 Bookkeepers on board handle the credit control and of things, your work is to supply "Management Information" on costs - detective work where necessary! In your mid 20's or early 30's don't miss this audition.

18-21 Jermyn Street London SW1Y 6HP Telephone: 071-734 7341

**Whirlwind
£16,000**

If you like the idea of being a busy PA/Assistant in a small firm of US Management Consultants then read on. The pace in this friendly office is frantic so your team spirit is essential working for the MD and his Number 2. Your flexibility and initiative is fundamental as you deal with marketing enquiries, arrange seminars, liaise with the US office and keep track of everybody's movements in addition to general secretarial duties. Skills 55 typing, Shorthand preferred, Age 26-35. Please call Kay Osborne on 071-437 6032.

HOBSTONES
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS**Bi-LINGUAL SECRETARIES****£11,000 - £15,000
PLUS BANKING BENEFITS**

Credit Lyonnais is a major international bank and numbers amongst the top 10 banks in the world. We now have the following opportunities at our UK Head Office in London.

- * Experienced bi-lingual English/French secretaries to work in our Corporate Banking area for a team of Account Managers.
- * A copy typist with a knowledge of French to work for two busy teams in Corporate Banking. There is a high typing workload and some audio is required.
- * Experienced bi-lingual English/French secretary to work for the Accounts department. The job includes lots of figure work and a knowledge of Excel would be useful.

All positions require good typing speeds of 60/80 wpm and a knowledge of Word for Windows and other Windows products. Good organisational and interpersonal skills are essential.

We offer a good salary and benefits package commensurate with experience.

Please send your CV to Sue Randall,
Deputy Head of Personnel, Credit Lyonnais,
81-91 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4P 4LX.

CREDIT LYONNAIS**prima**
PA to Editor

Prima, the UK's top selling women's magazine, has an opportunity for an efficient, professional self motivated Personal Assistant to join the editorial team based in Victoria.

Reporting to the Editor, this position will give you the chance to demonstrate your excellent skills and ability to organise within a busy environment. Your role will be varied ranging from comprehensive secretarial support to arranging functions and assisting with promotional events.

Ideally, candidates should have proven experience at a senior level, excellent skills including WP with a typing speed of 60 wpm, shorthand 50 wpm, and a friendly and efficient telephone manner. Basic knowledge of German would be an advantage, but not essential. In return we offer a competitive salary, 5 weeks holiday, free Life Assurance, STI and contributory Pension Scheme.

Interested? Please send CV quoting current salary to: Tina Bee, Personnel Officer, G+J of the UK, Portland House, Step Place, London SW1E 5AU.

upstream

This well established & highly respected business communications company is looking to appoint a

MARKETING ASSISTANT

desires to locate experienced sales & marketing related work & general administration. Would suit a self starter with good interpersonal skills & ability to cope in a creative, fast moving & often unpredictable business. Non-smoker. Apple Mac & Word Processor for the Mac preferred. No shorthand. Salary c. £14k.

Applicants with a background in the Communications Industry particularly welcome, it is unlikely that anyone under the age of 25 will have the necessary experience & maturity for this interesting post.

Application in writing only, with CV to: The Chairman, Upstream, Ratings House, 66 Alma Road, Windsor SL4 3EZ.

PUBLIC RELATIONS PA/SECRETARY

WIMBLEDON

Experienced PA/Secretary, with a good sense of humour, required to work for the Managing Director and an Account Director of a Wimbledon-based public relations consultancy.

The successful applicant will be an accurate and competent WP operator with a confident telephone manner, able to use their initiative and to work under pressure at times. Salary commensurate with age and experience.

Send full CV to Janice Hood, Kestrel Communications Ltd, Broadway House, The Broadway, Wimbledon, London SW19 1RL. NO AGENCIES.

Maine - Tucker
Recruitment Consultants**French**
**TRAVEL THE WORLD...
Circa £26,000 (TAX FREE) +
Accom + Car + Meals**

...spend your Christmas watching the snow flakes fall in St. Moritz... revel in the South of France's Summer... cool down in the sea breeze off the Bahamas... but this isn't a holiday, it's your job. If you possess excellent Secretarial Skills, an impeccable International Senior Secretarial background & you have at least fluent French & another one other European language at your finger tips... then you could have the credentials to become a trusted member of this illustrious family's entourage. Relying upon your natural mental agility, if you understand the wide range of business concepts, if you can offer the highest references, are 30 to 40, free to devote yourself to this truly international challenge, please telephone our offices as soon as possible.

18-21 Jermyn Street London SW1Y 6HP Telephone: 071-734 7341

**CAREER SECRETARY
C20,000
PLUS EXCELLENT BENEFITS**

Prestigious Investment House in the West End require dedicated secretary for work-holic charming Head of Corporate Finance Team, depth of knowledge of London 12a, financial and banking sectors, long hours, routine secretarial duties. Potential to earn a fortune in paid overtime and bonus. Typing 50pm, fluent in 2 languages, computer literate, good advantage along with a financial background.

Phone Sue Carter on
071-638 2805, Zanzibar May
Associates (Rec Cons).

**SUPER SECRETARY/P.A.
CITY SEARCH FIRM
£16,000 to £17,500**

We are a well established but young-minded specialist search firm with offices in London, Edinburgh and New York. Our MD's PA of many years is leaving and we are seeking a dynamic, friendly outgoing, super efficient, less than 20 years old to work at board level but will also turn a hand to help as part of a team. The ideal candidate will be a graduate engineer or manager with excellent typists, ideally on Microsoft Word, who can handle clients, consultants and suppliers, co-ordinate a programme of administrative and other functions in a lively environment.

Please send your CV to Sharon White at 20 Conduit Lane, London EC1R 5EP. No Agencies.

**SECRETARY TO CHIEF
EXECUTIVE'S P.A.****Chelsea**Maine - Tucker
Recruitment Consultants**STORM CLOUDS GATHER ...
Circa £15,000**

...the skies darken in the mountains, large drops begin to fall, the drops become rivulets, run together to form streams merging to form rivers, and then this brilliant, dynamic, inspiring team go to work! This small, highly educated team manages a vast resource from a gracious Queen Anne house that looks out over one of London's loveliest parks - close to Victoria. Two committed Secretaries work alongside this team, one is already on board - the other? That could be you. You will need to type accurately (45) but accuracy and your intellectual grasp of their subject is more important. A Level education is vital. So, if you are in your mid 20's, feet firmly on the ground, fed up with dealing with the intangibles. Get back to what life's about and give us a ring.

18-21 Jermyn Street London SW1Y 6HP Telephone: 071-734 7341

**Sales Support
£12,000 - Battersea**

Select Director of small, entrepreneurial company requires PA for this responsible position. You will have excellent organisational skills, a professional telephone manner and enjoy working under pressure. Client contact high, secretarial content low. 50 wpm typing.

**Team Secretary
£10,500 - West London**

TV Director of media independent is looking for a junior secretary to compliment his team. Friendly and down-to-earth, you will enjoy a busy, hectic environment. 60 wpm typing. Job for Windows.

**Reception
£10,500 - Hammersmith**

Young, fun and busy. For this sales promotion company you must be reliable and take pride in your work. Excellent presentation and 40 wpm typing required.

MEDAD Rec. Cons.
071 494 0445**SECRETARY TO CHIEF
EXECUTIVE'S P.A.****c. £13,000-£14,500
+ Benefits****Chelsea**

Applications are invited from experienced Secretaries to work under the P.A. to the Chief Executive, as well as provide support to the President. You should have good shorthand, typing and w.p. skills and an excellent telephone manner. Duties will include general correspondence, screening telephone calls, handling queries and messages. In addition, you will also be required to take minutes at various meetings and distribute agendas as well as helping to organise lunches. You will also be responsible for assisting with a variety of projects. A flexible attitude is vital as is a practical, conscientious approach and a sense of humour.

All applications in writing please to:

Helen Jones,
Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund,
15/19 Britten Street,
London SW3 3TZ.

Cancer Relief
Macmillan Fund
Living with cancer

**Train Up
to £13,000.**

Team young' secretary sought by Personnel department of large City firm. Provide valuable backup to a very busy area handling the graduate training programme with your fast typing, good w.p. skills and excellent telephone manner. 6-9 months secretarial experience, confidence and flexibility essential to become a successful team member. A levels, 55 typing/audio. Age: to 21. Please contact Victoria Heslington on 071-377 3919 for further details.

HOBSTONES**FABULOUS CHALLENGE****£17,000**

A superb opportunity exists for pro-active, stylish and professional PA/Sec.

Your role will utilise your banking, PR or series industry experience and you will be capable of dealing at all social levels, working as part of a team, numerate, intelligent and lively.

Strong personality, energy, determination and an ability to juggle priorities with excellent secretarial skills are a prerequisite.

Skills 80/80 Age 21 - 30

Call urgently on 071-726 8491

ANGELA MORTIMER

Secretarial Recruitment Consultancy

CLUTCHES**PROPERTY
SECRETARY**

Required for Commercial Agents division of Cheltenham Surveyors in Mayfair.

The successful applicant must have fast, accurate typing with good organisational skills and be of a cheerful disposition. Please apply with CV in writing to:

Miss E. Halsall, 45 Berkeley Square, London W1X 5DR. NO AGENCIES

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANCY TELEPHONE: 071-580 0000

THE XYZ PR PA

**£14,000 + 5
WEEKS HOLS**

Join this leading prestigious PR organisation and assist the L.T. Director with press releases, press conferences, co-ordination of press days and local PA/Sec. duties.

Previous PR experience and preferably DTP (although training will be offered) plus excellent IT skills.

Age 24-30.

CONTACT: BARBARA DAY
081 865 4362
FAX: 081 861 2372

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANCY TELEPHONE: 071-580 0000

THE XYZ PR PA

£14,000 + 5
WEEKS HOLS

Join this leading prestigious PR organisation and assist the L.T. Director with press releases, press conferences, co-ordination of press days and local PA/Sec. duties.

Previous PR experience and preferably DTP (although training will be offered) plus excellent IT skills.

Age 24-30.

CONTACT: BARBARA DAY
081 865 4362
FAX: 081 861 2372

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANCY TELEPHONE: 071-580 0000

THE XYZ PR PA

£14,000 + 5
WEEKS HOLS

Join this leading prestigious PR organisation and assist the L.T. Director with press releases, press conferences, co-ordination of press days and local PA/Sec. duties.

Previous PR experience and preferably DTP (although training will be offered) plus excellent IT skills.

Age 24-30.

CONTACT: BARBARA DAY
081 865 4362
FAX: 081 861 2372

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANCY TELEPHONE: 071-580 0000

THE XYZ PR PA

£14,000 + 5
WEEKS HOLS

Join this leading prestigious PR organisation and assist the L.T. Director with press releases, press conferences, co-ordination of press days and local PA/Sec. duties.

Previous PR experience and preferably DTP (although training will be offered) plus excellent IT skills.

Age 24-30.

CONTACT: BARBARA DAY
081 865 4362
FAX: 081 861 2372

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANCY TELEPHONE: 071-580 0000

THE XYZ PR PA

£14,000 + 5
WEEKS HOLS

Join this leading prestigious PR organisation and assist the L.T. Director with press releases, press conferences, co-ordination of press days and local PA/Sec. duties.

Previous PR experience and preferably DTP (although training will be offered) plus excellent IT skills.

Age 24-30.

CONTACT: BARBARA DAY
081 865 4362
FAX: 081 861 2372

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANCY TELEPHONE: 071-580 0000

THE XYZ PR PA

£14,000 + 5
WEEKS HOLS

Join this leading prestigious PR organisation and assist the L.T. Director with press releases, press conferences, co-ordination of press days and local PA/Sec. duties.

Previous PR experience and preferably DTP (although training will be offered) plus excellent IT skills.

Age 24-30.

CONTACT: BARBARA DAY
081 865 4362
FAX: 081 861 2372

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANCY TELEPHONE: 071-580 0000

THE XYZ PR PA

£14,000 + 5
WEEKS HOLS

If houses voted, who would win?

Which party's promises offer most hope to the beleaguered homeowner?
Rachel Kelly goes policy-hunting

Labour's taxation policies would be a "fast-spreading cancer" which would rip the heart out of the housing market in every part of Britain, John Major said last week.

Fighting talk, and predictable enough, but the housing experts agree. Last week, the consensus was that Labour's budget proposals would be disastrous for the housing market.

David Ware, the president of the National Association of Estate Agents, said that nothing in the shadow budget would breathe life into the stagnant market.

Labour had neither suggested extending mortgage interest tax relief from its £30,000 threshold, nor did its manifesto mention a permanent abolition of stamp duty, which is now suspended but due to be reintroduced in August.

Other agents were more damning. "Labour's proposals would do considerable damage to the housing market," said James Laing, a partner at Stott & Parker. The shadow chancellor's proposals for increased tax rates would hit mid-range professional executives earning around £50,000, who were the key to the growth of the property

market, Mr Laing said. Only when the middle sector of the market got moving again would other sectors follow.

Steven Bell, the chief economist at Morgan Grenfell, the merchant bank, commented on the 1.5 million on more than £30,000 who, he said, will be "smashed in the face" by Labour's tax proposals. "They face up to a 20 per cent loss in incomes, which will mean a heavy hit on the top end of the housing market, with more repossession and distressed selling."

Those on £22,000 and over will also be hit by about a 4 per cent loss of income. "This is quite significant," said Mr Bell. "When you are moving house, you make pretty fine calculations."

Building societies, too, reacted gloomily. The Woolwich estimated that Labour's tax plans would remove about £3 billion from potential house buyers between 1991 and 1992.

Fair comment, but what of the Tory record? It is hard to defend the government's contribution to the housing market, given the slump. House prices have been falling in the South-East at least since 1988. It was the Conservatives who failed



Wary of the Labour party's housing plans: James Laing with his wife, Jane, at home in Berkshire

to control the lending bonanza of the 1980s, which led in part to the plight of more than 75,000 whose homes were repossessed last year, while the abolition of twin tax relief led to an artificial boom and slump.

Equally, its manifesto has some imaginative proposals for homeowners. It hopes to end gazzumping and suggests tighter controls over estate agents, both of which would be welcome. There are plans to help

first-time buyers with a package of measures. Their mortgage repayments will be reduced by concentrating their tax relief on the early years of homeownership.

Mr Ware said: "There is not a tremendous amount of difference between this budget and Mr Lamont's budget so far as the housing market is concerned."

Unquestionably though, the Conservative ethos is that the home

must remain the Briton's castle. The Tories wish to boost homeownership to 75 per cent from its present level of 68 per cent, while Labour believes the boundaries of home ownership are already severely stretched. Mr Lamont's budget gives property owners considerable advantages, albeit indirectly.

"Tax levels are either pegged at their current rates or could come

down under the Tories," Mr Laing said. "People would be better off able to move house, and the market would get moving."

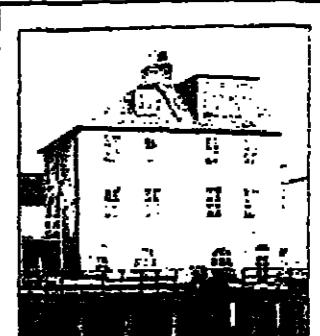
The Woolwich fears a hung parliament after April 9. This would create continued uncertainty about government policies, and result in later recoveries in both the economy and the housing market than either an outright victory for Labour or the Conservatives."

Plans by the Liberal Democrats to replace mortgage interest tax relief with "housing cost relief" weighed towards those most in need and available to buyers and renters would deal a body blow to home ownership in the short term, but could prove popular in the long term.

New homeowners have discontinued to their cost the dangers of investing in bricks and mortar. A party that encourages the rented sector could win votes.

Regardless of who wins the election, perhaps the single most important factor to affect the market is interest rates. The scale of government borrowing means that they are likely to rise even if the Tories are returned.

"The one thing that will bring the present recovery to a standstill is an administration that would borrow and tax more," Sir George Young, the housing minister, has said. He was talking about Labour, but his remarks could equally apply to the Tories.



Thames delight: £320,000

BEST BUY

THIS Georgian house on the Thames in Greenwich is genuinely rare, Rachel Kelly writes. On the south bank between Chelsea and Greenwich there is only one other private Georgian house directly facing the river.

The four-storey house has four or five bedrooms and large reception rooms. There are views south over the Thames towards Canary Wharf. A 16ft by 14ft terrace extends over the river and has ancient mooring rights. A riverside walk in front of the Naval College leads to Greenwich Pier, from where the Riverbus service operates (the City is 15 minutes away, Charing Cross 25).

Price: £320,000, through Winkworth, Blackheath (081-318 9666).

WATERSIDE HOMES



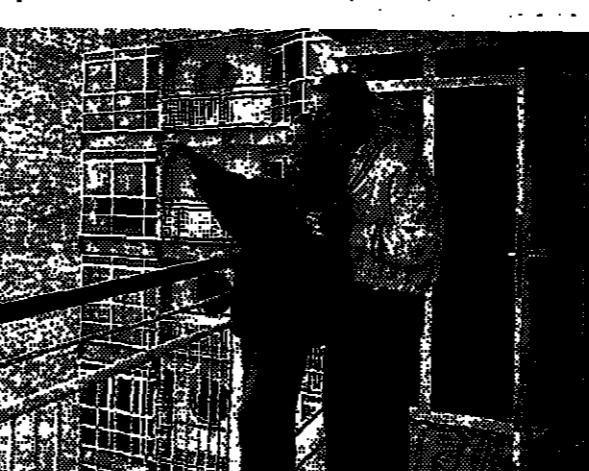
Where it's exciting to Work, Work-out, Rest & Play.

The ultimate riverside development of luxury apartments and townhouses, just a short walk from Canary Wharf in London's exciting new Docklands. Exclusive facilities include gym, saunas and swimming pool.

TWO BEDROOM APARTMENTS FROM	£129,950
THREE BEDROOM APARTMENTS FROM	£208,950
THREE BEDROOM PENTHOUSE APARTMENTS	£305,000
THREE BEDROOM NEWS TOWNHOUSES FROM	£181,000

ANCHORAGE POINT
WEST FERRY ROAD · LONDON · E14

SALES INFORMATION SUITE
071-537 4488
FAX: 071-538 5642



SAVILLS CHESTERTONS ALEXONELL

071-188 9586 071-538 3989 071-790 8383

SALCOMBE SOUTH DEVON



One of the town's finest detached, marine residences - dramatic estuary views from every room.

Gentle climb, very private location, only five minutes walk to the town and pier. 6 double bedrooms, 3 en-suites, 4 reception rooms, 3 balconies, 2 sun patios, stunning barbecue terrace overlooking harbour beaches, ½ acre gardens, gas c.h. excellent order, garage, 10 car parking.

£470,000

MARCHANT PETITTA Tel: 0343 857503 Fax: 0343 857582

OWNING A WATERSIDE LODGE AT BUCKDEN MARINA, CAMBRIDGESHIRE



AND THAT IS JUST THE BEGINNING

When you own Waterside Lodge No. 12 at Buckden, it is just the beginning to a new leisure lifestyle. This lodge has 3 bedrooms, 2 storey waterside property and includes its own private mooring and brand new Viking 28 Rivercruiser.

Owning allows access to:
• 200 miles of inland river cruising
• 32 acre waterski lake
• A Family Membership to the superb Leisure Club including swimming pool, spa, sauna, gymnasium, bar and brasserie
• Golf, fishing and sailing

Price £125,000
(Mortgage facilities available)

Whichever way you look at it, the facilities at Buckden are second to none.

Please today for further details on (0480) 810355 or visit our show lodges at Buckden. We are conveniently situated on the A1, one hour north from London.

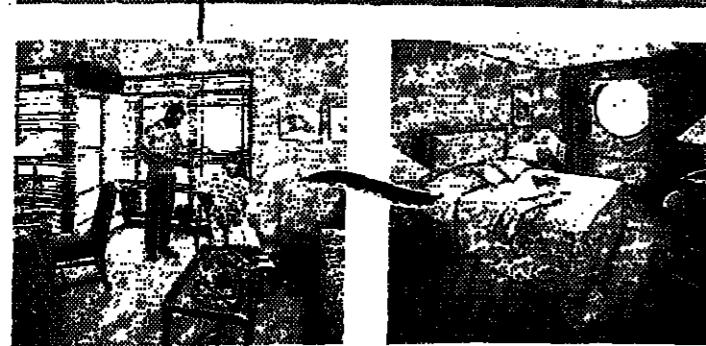
Buckden Marina, Mill Road, Buckden, Cambridgeshire PE15 9RY

WATERSIDE PROPERTIES
Estate agents for coastal, river and marine properties.
SWANSEA, 0412 8000. Services and very attractive modern 4 bedroom/2 bath detached house with 2 bed/2 bath "granny annexe" to lovely open aspect. Three side location. Garage. 3 cars, solar panels with 70% savings at end of payback period. £125,000.
WORTON CRICKET, 01244 810000. A charming crack side sheet bungalow with 2 bedrooms, over an acre of land, with a garden for the children to play in. £125,000.
ROBINSON STONE, 01244 810000. A spacious 6 bedroom/4 bathroom family house with extensive accommodation, beautiful views over 7½ acres of own gardens and paddocks with 2000 ft of River Severn frontage. £125,000 plus.
BERKINEL, 01244 810000. Detached house, a real country house with 02 acres tennis court, superb facilities at the foot of the Malvern Hills. Plus with glorious south facing views across the Solent to Isle of Wight. Also Croft House, 2 cottages, swimming pool and Tennis Court. Previously owned by Dr Parkinson.
081 542 9599

OYSTER QUAY PORT SOLENT PORTSMOUTH
Superb Marina Apartments
Perfect for getting away from it all!
• Swimming pool
• Sauna/watsu pool spa
• Gymnasium
• Berths available
FLATS FROM £95,000
(0705) 219 109
REGALIAN

Our next Waterside Feature will appear within the Times on Wednesday, 27th May.

To place your property, or for further details,
Tel: 071 481 1986
Fax: 071 782 7828



Pelham Management Services Limited, Tubs Hill House South, London Road, Sevenoaks, Kent TN13 1BL Tel: 0732 741970 Fax: 0732 430710 The information and details provided are prepared for general guidance only and are subject to change and shall be of no legal effect.

LOW AS

UP ON
Europe

Put yourself
househunter!

Holiday TIME

Court of Appeal

Law Report March 25 1992

Court of Appeal

Right to sue for pre-birth harm

B v Islington Health Authority
De Martell v Merton and Sutton Health Authority
Before Lord Justice Dillon, Lord Justice Balcombe and Lord Justice Leggatt
[Judgment March 18]

Children with disabilities caused by alleged negligent medical treatment before they were born had a cause of action against the health authorities.

The Court of Appeal so held in dismissing appeals (i) by Islington Health Authority against the decision of Mr Justice Potts ([1991] QB 638) who dismissed its application to strike out the statement of claim of B, the plaintiff, as disclosing no reasonable cause of action and (2) by Merton and Sutton Health Authority against the decision of Mr Justice Phillips on May 5, 1991 who found as a preliminary issue that on the allegations made by the plaintiff, Christopher De Martell, the defendant was liable in tort for those acts and/or omissions committed before the plaintiff's birth.

In B the alleged negligence was the carrying out of a dilation and curettage when the plaintiff was an embryo in her mother's womb, which operation it was alleged should not have been performed on a pregnant woman.

In De Martell the plaintiff was born with brain damage and asphyxia after a failed forceps delivery. He was delivered by Caesarean section.

Mr Peter Ashworth, QC and Mr Peter B. Grace for Islington Health Authority; Mr Daniel Brennan, QC and Mr Alastair Forrest for B; Mr Harvey McGregor, QC and Miss Jean Rennie for Merton and Sutton Health Authority; Mr Adrian Whifield, QC and Mr Peter Latham for Mr De Martell.

No submission before election

Barclays De Zoete Wedd Securities Ltd and Others v Nadir
Before Mr Justice Knox
[Judgment February 28]

The respondent in criminal proceedings for civil contempt was not entitled to make a submission of no case to answer without at the same time making an election as to whether he would call evidence.

Mr Justice Knox so held in the Chancery Division when ruling on a preliminary issue in an action by Barclays De Zoete Wedd Securities Ltd and eight other applicants in an action against Mr Asil Nadir for an alleged breach of *Marsva*, asset-freezing, undertakings.

Mr Gabriel Moss, QC and Mr Robin Dicker for the applicants; Mr Anthony Scrivenor, QC and Mr Isaac Jacob for the respondent.

MR JUSTICE KNOX said that the preliminary issue was part of a wider question as to how far criminal rules governed civil criminal proceedings.

There were two categories of case applicable. The first concerned how far criminal rules and procedure applied to civil proceedings to commit for contempt. His Lordship reviewed the authorities and concluded that contempt proceedings were civil but if there were sufficient justification then the courts would and had imported criminal rules.

The most common justification was the seriousness of the conduct.

LORD JUSTICE DILLON said that the question was whether a child born alive and who suffered disabilities as a result of alleged medical negligence while he was *en utero* so mere could maintain an action for negligence.

The *Genital Disabilities (Civil Liability) Act* 1976 applied only to children born after the passing of the Act and the present cases had to be decided according to the law previously in force which was essentially the common law.

It was open to the English courts to apply the maxim directly to the present cases and treat the two plaintiffs in lives in being at the time when they were injured, although it was not necessary to do so directly because of *Montreal Tramways*.

Mr Ashworth referred to a number of United States decisions. The general thesis was that decisions between 1884 and 1945 held that a child *en utero* could not recover and be submitted that those decisions represented the pure doctrine of the common law while decisions after 1945 reached the opposite view were wrong.

The post-1945 US decisions held as a development of the common law that a child could recover damages for pre-natal injuries.

His Lordship was most reluctant to hold that the common law, although capable of development in every other jurisdiction, crystallised a long time ago in England.

Mr Ashworth submitted that the defences admitted that a child *en utero* was not a person in the eye of the law.

There was no doubt that there were authorities which supported the general proposition that a defendant could not be liable for defective babies and a predictable accident followed after the car was sold with a child in the car. It would be no defence to say that the child had not been born when the car was manufactured.

While accepting that, the defendants submitted that a child *en utero* was not a person in the eye of the law.

His Lordship accepted that the general proposition which supported the general proposition that a defendant could not be liable for defective babies and a predictable accident followed after the car was sold with a child in the car. It would be no defence to say that the child had not been born when the car was manufactured.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court held in a reserved judgment when dismissing the appeal of the Chief Constable of the West Midlands Police against the decision of Mr Justice Tudor Evans [1991] QB 268, 270 (26 LR (1991) 4 DR 418) to be preferred to Walker.

The appeals would be dismissed.

Lord Justice Balcombe agreed and Lord Justice Leggatt delivered a concurring judgment.

Solicitors: Beachcroft Stanley; Panzone March Pearson; Manchester; Capsticks, Putney; Panzone March Pearson.

child was not born at the time of an accident and was subsequently born alive, it was clothed with all rights of action. A wider view was taken by Mr Justice Cannon without reliance on the maxims of the civil law.

With the enactment of the 1976 Act, Parliament deliberately left open cases such as the present ones. Such cases were to be decided to the law in force prior to the Act, that is, the common law which did not simply mean *Walker* but the law which the court would apply including former authorities.

The Commonwealth cases of *Watt v Rama* ([1972] VR 353) and *Daval v Seguin* ([1972] 26 DR (3d) 418) were to be preferred to Walker.

The appeals would be dismissed.

Lord Justice Balcombe agreed and Lord Justice Leggatt delivered a concurring judgment.

Solicitors: Beachcroft Stanley; Panzone March Pearson; Manchester; Capsticks, Putney; Panzone March Pearson.

Tribunal is not bound by trial

Regina v Metropolitan Police Disciplinary Tribunal Ex parte Police Complaints Authority

The general proposition that false statements made at the trial of a convicted defendant could not form the subject of disciplinary proceedings so long as that conviction stood was not supported by authority.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice Nolan and Mr Justice Jowitt) so held on March 20 when granting an application by the Police Com-

plaints Authority to quash a decision of the Metropolitan Police Disciplinary Tribunal to stay disciplinary proceedings against two police officers on the ground of abuse of process.

LORD JUSTICE NOLAN said it had to be clearly recognised that *Hunter v Chief Constable of West Midlands Police* ([1982] AC 529) was not authority for any general proposition that false statements made at the trial of a convicted defendant could not form the subject of disciplinary proceedings so long as that conviction stood.

The police were justified in

Police cannot retain money

appear and was not represented.

MR JUSTICE TUDOR EVANS said that following a raid by the police armed with a warrant under the Licensing Act 1964 on premises owned by the respondent, a substantial quantity of alcohol drink was found. The respondent admitted that he ran the premises as a club and that he did not have a licence to sell intoxicating liquor.

He was searched and money found on his person was seized and retained by the police. The respondent subsequently pleaded guilty to offences under the 1964 Act before the Birmingham Justices on January 20, 1990, when he was sentenced to a conditional discharge and all the liquor found was ordered to be forfeited.

The justices made no order in respect of the money found nor did they determine under a New hearing ([1982] 7 Cr App R 13) whether it was the proceeds of the sale of alcohol at the club or, as was claimed, a loan to the respondent by his brother.

The police applied for an order under section 1 of the Police (Property) Act 1897 for an order as to the owner of the money. The stipendiary magistrate found that the money was the proceeds of sale of alcoholic and non-alcoholic liquor, and that the respondent was "the owner" of the money even though the sale involved was illegal and the contract of sale void and unenforceable: *Raymond Lyons & Co Ltd v Metropolitan Police Commissioner* ([1975] QB 321).

His Lordship said that there was no power under the warrant to seize and retain the money; the statutory power was confined to the seizure and removal of intoxicating liquor and the vessels containing such liquor.

The police were justified in

retaining the money for the limited purpose of establishing the lawful owner and, having retained it, they were entitled to apply under section 1 of the 1897 Act.

The power of the court to make an order under that Act was expressly preserved by section 22(5) of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 where police had retained money under section 1897.

The magistrate rightly concluded that the contract under which the money was paid was void and unenforceable but it did not follow, as Mr Stenhouse contended, that it was a nullity and that no legal rights could be derived from it. It was well established that ownership of property could pass under an illegal contract: *Singh v All Belvoir Finance Co Ltd v Stapleton* ([1971] 1 QB 210).

The contract was fully executed and property in the money was passed to the respondent who thereby acquired an indefeasible right to it and, in his Lordship's view, under the terms of the 1897 Act he could be entitled to order the delivery of the money to the respondent.

Mr Stenhouse submitted that the respondent's conduct in selling in breach of the 1964 Act was so tainted that, even if the property in the money passed to him, the court should refuse to support his claim to the money. He relied on *Solomon v Metropolitan Police Commissioner* ([1982] Crim LR 606) where the maxim was applied.

But in his Lordship's view, that was a very different type of case to the present and nothing that was decided in it cast any doubt on the principles stated in the other cases or the relevance of those principles in the present case.

While it could not be doubted

MAKING YOUR WILL?

European Law Report**Necessity for rigorous requirements to guarantee legal certainty**

BASF AG and Others v Commission of the European Communities
Joined Cases: T-79/89, T-84 to 86/89, T-89/89, T-91/89, T-92/89, T-94/89, T-96/89, T-98/89, T-102/89 and T-104/89

Before Judge D. Barrington, President of the Second Chamber and Judges A. Saggio, C. Yerini, C. P. Briet and J. Biancarelli
[Judgment February 27]

Rigorous formal requirements governing the drawing up, adoption and authentication of measures were necessary to guarantee the stability of the legal order and legal certainty for those subjects to measures adopted by Community institutions. Such formalism guaranteed the observance of the principles of legality, legal certainty and sound administration.

The Court of First Instance of the European Communities (Second Chamber) so held in dismissing as inadmissible applications by 14 polyvinylchloride (PVC) producers against Commission Decision 89/190/EEC of December 21, 1988 relating to a proceeding pursuant to article 85 of the EEC Treaty (IV/31.865 PVC) (OJ 1989 L74, p.1).

On March 24, 1988 the Commission had instituted a proceeding under article 3(1) of Regulation No 17 against 14 producers of PVC. On April 5, 1988 it sent each of those undertakings a statement of objections and, after hearing the observations of the undertakings adopted the disputed decision.

On March 17, 1989 that decision was published in the OJ. The decision had been notified to the undertakings concerned in February 1989.

The operative part of the decision as notified and published contained, *inter alia*, a finding that the 14 undertakings had infringed article 85 of the EEC Treaty, by participating in an agreement and/or concerted practice originating in about August 1980 by which the producers supplying PVC in the Community took part in regular meetings in order to fix target prices and target quotes, planned concerted initiative to raise price levels and monitor the operation of the said collusive arrangements. The undertakings were ordered to bring that infringement to an end and were fined sums ranging from 400,000 to 3,500,000 ECU.

In its judgment the Court of First Instance ruled:

Irregularity of the adopted measure

A number of the applicants had maintained that there were discrepancies between the measures notified and in the Official Journal of the European Communities and the measure adopted which went beyond mere grammatical corrections and made the decision void in its entirety.

In its judgment in Case T-131/86 *United Kingdom v Council* (The Times, March 23, 1988; [1988] 905 known as the "battery hen case"), the Court of Justice had held, with regard to a directive adopted by the Council and subsequently amended by the staff of the Council's general secretariat, that the statement of reasons was an essential part of a measure.

His Lordship was not persuaded that because the standard of proof in civil contempt proceedings was the criminal one of beyond a reasonable doubt there was no absolute right to withhold payment of a sum of money after submission of no case to answer.

Mr Iain Peebles for the pursuers; Mr David Burns for the defendants.

The defendants had been in-

terred against such deaths and had previously so advised all their employers by a notice which stated that the defenders were the insured and that payments of insurance proceeds were made to dependents of employees at the defenders' discretion and might be taken into account in the event of a claim against the defenders.

It had been submitted on behalf of the respondent that the adoption of the criminal standard of proof in civil contempt proceedings meant that logically the procedure of the criminal courts in regard to submissions of no case to answer should apply in the present proceedings also.

His Lordship, sitting in the Outer House of the Court of Session, so held when dealing from probation avertments by Scottish Hydro-Electric plc that the sum of £54,552.50 should be deducted from any sum which they were found liable to pay by way of reparation to Mrs June Bews and others.

It was apparent that a new paragraph had been added to the statement of reasons in the decision as notified and published.

As to the amendments to the operative part of the decisions such amendments directly affected the scope of the obligations which were imposed by the amended measure or the scope of the rights which it conferred upon them.

In this case such an amendment might alter the manner in which the alleged infringement was attributed and even shift the financial burden of the fine imposed. Such amendments to the operative part of the measure as constituting a particularly serious and manifest infringement of the principle of the irregularity of the measure adopted, which constituted one of the foundations of legal certainty in the Community legal order.

Lack of competence of authority issuing the measure

It followed from the regulation on use of languages in the Community and from article 12 of the Commission's Rules of Procedure (CRP) taken together that, where, as in this case, the Commission intended to adopt a single measure a decision which was binding on a number of legal persons for whom different languages were to be used, the decision had to be adopted in each of the languages in which it was binding in order to avoid making authentication impossible.

In this case it was apparent that the contested decision was not adopted by the Commission in Dutch and Italian which were the authentic texts for five of the undertakings.

A decision which established an infringement of article 85 of the Treaty, issued orders to a number of undertakings, imposed large fines upon them and was directly enforceable for those purposes clearly affected the rights and obligations and the property of those undertakings.

It could not be regarded merely as a measure of management or administration whose adoption fell within the powers of a single member of the

Commission since that would be directly contrary to the principle of collegial responsibility expressly referred to in the CRP.

It followed that the measure adopted in Dutch and Italian by the member of the Commission responsible for matters of competition was issued by an authority lacking the necessary powers.

Furthermore, the measures notified in the five authentic languages had to be adopted by the member of the Commission which was not the authority which had issued the decision.

The measures notified to the applicants and published in the OJ had been issued by an authority lacking the temporal competence to do so.

Non-existence of the measure

At the hearing the applicants had argued that it was impossible to verify the authenticity of the contested measure and that the contested decision had never existed since it had been adopted neither by the full Commission nor by the member of the Commission responsible for competition matters.

The Community judges, guided by principles derived from national legal systems, would declare non-existent a measure which was vitiated by particularly serious and manifest defects. This plea related to a matter of public interest which might be relied upon by the parties at any time during the proceedings and had to be raised by the Court of its own motion.

The Court had asked the defendant to produce the adopted decision in its original form duly authenticated in accordance with the CRP.

An examination of the documents produced confirmed that, apart from the minutes produced to the Court, the covering letter dated January 5, 1989 attached to the copies of the decisions notified to the applicants constituted the only document which was signed by a member of the Commission.

That finding had, moreover, been acknowledged by the defendant, since it stated itself that it was unable to produce an original decision duly signed and authenticated and that the text of the contested decision was to be inferred from a combined reading of the various documents produced.

Infringement of article 12 of the CRP

The requirement in the second paragraph of article 12 of the CRP, that the

texts of such acts were to be annexed to the minutes in which their adoption was recorded, was of essential importance since it guaranteed that the authenticated measure was in conformity with the measure adopted and hence that the measure could not be altered.

It was only when the measure adopted by the full Commission duly authenticated by the member of the Commission responsible for competition matters was combined with the minutes of the meeting of the Commission recording the adoption of the measure deliberated upon that it was possible to be certain of the existence of the measure and its content and to be sure that the measure corresponded exactly to the intentions of the Commission.

All those rigorous formal requirements governing the drawing up, adoption and authentication of measures were necessary in order to guarantee the stability of the legal order and legal certainty for those subjects to measures adopted by Community institutions.

Such formalism was strictly necessary for the maintenance of a

Crème de la Crème
every Monday Wednesday Thursday
071 481 4481

THE TIMES

PERSONAL COLUMN

ESTABLISHED 1785

Mother's Day
Place your note of affection
071 481 4000

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DATELINE
WITH DAVID COX our executive service is the world's largest most successful agency. Cox has been writing since 1965 and 7 m. Must be over 21. Free details: Dateline (Postnet 9040) or Tel: 071 932 1011.

THE MACMILLAN NURSE APPEAL

FIGHTING CANCER WITH MORE THAN MEDICINE
When you leave a legacy to CEMF, you leave behind a living testament of care for people with cancer to the generations who follow. Every pound you help to train. For more information about our Macmillan Nurse Appeal or for a copy of our leaflet "Leave a Legacy of Hope" write to: CEMF, 15/19 Brudenell Street, London SW3 5TR, or phone on 071-531 7821.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SERVICES

TICKETS
QUEEN BENETTE, SIMPLY RED, MICHAEL JACKSON, WHITESNAKE, PHANTOM, SAIGON, JOURNEY, ALL TICKETS OBTAINED

FOR SALE
WANTED
ALL CROCODILE Articles Old and New. Postage Paid. Tel: 071 229 9518.

TICKETS FOR SALE
WHICH responding to advertisements from readers are advised to establish the face value and full details of tickets before entering into any commitment.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MAKING YOUR WILL?

Please remember Parkinson's Disease Society. Men and women all over the world suffer from Parkinson's Disease, over 100,000 in this country alone. There is no known cure. Researchers need your help. Help us ease the burden and find the cure for Parkinson's Disease with a donation and remember us when making your Will.

Parkinson's Disease Society
22 Upper Woburn Place, London WC1H 9RA

To: Parkinson's Disease Society, 22 Upper Woburn Place, London WC1H 9RA
 I enclose a donation of £_____
 Please send me your Will leaflet:

Name _____
Address _____
Postcode _____
Person: HRH The Princess of Wales Charity Reg. No. 25057



HAVE YOU MADE A WILL?

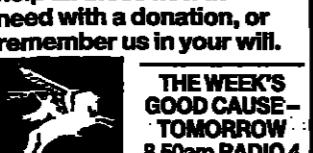
It can save possible hardship and misunderstanding later on, so why not for Oxfam's WILL ADVICE PACK?

It's written in plain English, gives down to earth practical guidance shows how Wills present one of the easiest and most effective ways to help people in need - and it's free.

Contact:
Lucile Goodwin, Oxfam LG74
FREEPOST, Oxford OX2 7BR
Tel: (0856) 510505.

BATTLE HONOURS

FOR 50 YEARS Britain's Airborne soldiers have given of their best. Please do your best to help all those now in need with a donation, or remember us in your will.



THE WEEK'S GOOD CAUSE - TOMORROW 8.50am RADIO 4

THE AIRBORNE FORCES GOLDEN JUBILEE APPEAL

BROWNS BARRACKS, ALDERSHOT, HANTS GU11 2SU REGISTERED CHARITY: 20042

Will Power to lift the shadow of diabetes
and the link with
■ Kidney disease
■ Shortened life span
■ Heart disease
■ Amputations
■ Blindness

All these are closely connected with Diabetes. As the leading contributor to research we must find the cure for this still incurable disease. Your legacy will be a forever reminder of your will to help us defeat diabetes. Block the ball's.

071 487 5088 24 hrs just listen!
or VIP service from £1.250 081 763 1788 24 hrs
Classic Country House dinner parties for singles.
Details bookings 0293 87465

DIARY OF TIMES CLASSIFIED

TELEPHONE 071 481 4000

Our Personal Column focuses on a different theme for your private advertising every day.

MONDAY TUITION & COURSES

TUESDAY HOBBIES & PASTIMES

LIVESTOCK

WEDNESDAY HOUSEHOLD CONTENTS

THURSDAY FAMILY MATTERS

FRIDAY FOOD FOR THOUGHT

SATURDAY SATURDAY SALES

PRESENT SURPRISE

MONDAY EDUCATIONAL APPOINTMENTS University Appointments, Pre & Public Exams, Appointments, Education, Scholarships and Fellowships, etc. official. LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME: Secretarial Appointments.

TUESDAY LEGAL APPOINTMENTS Solicitors, Commercial Lawyers, Legal Counsel, Private & Public Practice with reference to PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS.

WEDNESDAY LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME: Secretarial Appointments, APPOINTMENTS: Creative & Media

APPOINTMENTS: Accountants, PROFESSIONAL: Residential, Town & Country, OVERSEAS COMMERCIAL: PROPERTY: With official.

THURSDAY GENERAL APPOINTMENTS: Management, Engineering, Science & Technology, with official. ACCOUNTANCY & FINANCE: LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME: Secretarial Appointments.

SATURDAY WEEKEND TIMES: SHOPAROUND: Shopping from the comfort of your own home.

SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS: The place to expand your social circle.

PROPERTY: Residential, Town & Country, Overseas, Rentals

GARDENING CLUB: Arts and Antiques (monthly)

SATURDAY REVIEW: OVERSEAS HOLIDAYS

Write your advertisement below (approximately 28 characters per line including spaces and punctuation). Minimum 3 lines £5.50 per line plus VAT, or £8.25 per line plus VAT for 2 weeks.

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
TEL (Day) _____
SIGNATURE _____

If you would like to advertise of our dual insertion plan, and save 25% please tick box.

No advertisement can be accepted under these special terms unless pre-paid.

Chances should be made payable to Times Newspapers Limited or debit my:

ACCESS VISA AMEX DINERS (Tick Box)

Card No. _____
Expiry Date _____
Signature _____

This offer is open to private advertisers only. Trade advertisers will appear subject to the normal rates and conditions.

Send to: Simon Goddard, Advertising Manager, The Times, Times Newspaper Ltd, PO Box 484, Virginia Street, London E1 9SL.

TELEPHONE 071 481 4000 FAX 071 481 9313 or 071 782 7828

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

